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Inventory of the Town, Village and City

Archives of Vermont

Prepared by

THE VERMONT HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY  
Division of Professional and Service Projects  
Work Projects Administration

No. 1

Addison County

Vol. 2

Town of Bridport

The Vermont Historical Records Survey

Montpelier, Vermont

1939







INVENTORY  
OF THE  
TOWN, VILLAGE and CITY  
ARCHIVES  
OF  
VERMONT



No. 1, Addison County  
Vol. 2, Town of Bridport

THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY  
MONTPELIER, VERMONT

1939



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## The Historical Records Survey Program

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## FOREWORD

The Inventory of the Town, Village and City Archives of Vermont is one of a number of bibliographies of historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on the Historical Records Survey Program of the Work Projects Administration. The inventory of the archives of the town of Addison County is number 1 of the Vermont series. The publication herewith presented, Town of Bridport, is volume 2 of the Addison County Series.

The Historical Records Survey Program was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the town, and also the needs of lawyers, business men and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by the Historical Records Survey Program attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of the Historical Records Survey Program, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey Program was organized and has been directed by Luther H. Evans, and operates as a nation-wide series of locally sponsored projects in the Division of Professional and Service Projects, of which Mrs. Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

F. C. Harrington  
Commissioner





## PREFACE

The Vermont Historical Records Survey sponsored by the Vermont Public Records Commission under the auspices of the Work Projects Administration, Division of Professional and Service Projects, is part of a nation-wide historical records program of which Dr. Luther H. Evans is Director.

This Inventory of the Town, Village and City Archives of Vermont, Town of Bridport, is part of a series of publications being prepared for each of the town, villages and cities in the state. This is the first publication for Addison County.

The inventory of the records covered in this volume was written by Gerald Pryor. The histories were written by Frank Bryan and George Hyde. The initial research for the inventory was done by Earl Gove and Mary Carvoy. Virgil McCarthy prepared the maps and charts. The maps were reproduced by the Historical Records Survey in Massachusetts. The mimeographing was done under the supervision of James Leavitt in the state office. The Vermont staff has profited in all phases of its work by the constructive advice and criticism of the National office and Sargent B. Child, Regional Supervisor. The inventory in final manuscript form was edited by Mabel S. Brodie, Assistant Archivist in charge of public inventories of the staff of the Library of Congress project in the District of Columbia. The inventory is published with the approval of the Librarian of Congress.

Almost without exception the Survey has received the cooperation of both public officials and private citizens throughout the state. Their assistance has made the work much easier. The Vermont Historical Society and educational institutions throughout the state have assisted the project both financially and with technical advice.

Labor funds are furnished by the Work Projects Administration. However, all other non-labor costs of the project such as rent, light, heat, paper, etc. have been furnished by the State of Vermont and individuals, organizations and institutions sponsoring the program. The assistance which we receive is sincerely appreciated.

Merrill C. Perry  
State Supervisor  
Historical Records Survey





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ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

Abbreviations

alph.	. . . . .	alphabetical(ly)
approx.	. . . . .	approximately
arr.	. . . . .	arranged, arrangement
aver.	. . . . .	average
C, E,	. . . . .	civil engineer
ch(s).	. . . . .	chapter(s)
chron.	. . . . .	chronological(ly)
co.	. . . . .	company
Co.	. . . . .	County
et seq.	. . . . .	and the following
hdw.	. . . . .	handwritten
ibid.	. . . . .	the same reference
inc.	. . . . .	incorporated
Mass.	. . . . .	Massachusetts
misc.	. . . . .	miscellaneous
ms(s).	. . . . .	manuscript(s)
N, H.	. . . . .	New Hampshire
N, Y.	. . . . .	New York
no.	. . . . .	number
op. cit.	. . . . .	in the work cited
p, pp.	. . . . .	page(s)
passim.	. . . . .	in various passages
sec(s).	. . . . .	section(s)
U, S.	. . . . .	United States
viz.	. . . . .	namely
vol(s).	. . . . .	volume(s)
Vt.	. . . . .	Vermont

Symbols

—	. . . . .	to date
x	. . . . .	by, in dimension items
"	. . . . .	inches, following numerals
'	. . . . .	feet, following numerals
:	. . . . .	equivalent to
%	. . . . .	per cent

Explanatory Notes

This inventory of the archives of the town of Bridport consists of an inventory of all the records kept by the town officers both current and non-current. An historical sketch of the town has been written; short essays pertaining to the history of each of the offices and other supplementary material as shown in the table of contents have been prepared.

Like other Vermont towns there is no archivist, yet in practice the Vermont town clerk has always been, since the creation of the state in 1777, the town archivist and as the inventory will show, a large majority of the non-current records both of his own office and those of other offices are now to be found in his custody. In the





## Abbreviations, Symbols and Explanatory Notes

preparation of the inventory we have placed the records under the office of origin rather than under the office of custody, therefore, in many cases the records listed under one office will show under location that they may be found in the office of the town clerk.

To assist both the town officers and the user of the inventory we have prepared a brief listing of the records covered by this inventory (see page 7). A special copy of the inventory with a number of blank pages following this section is being bound for the use of the town clerk. It is hoped that this simple type of listing will be kept current for the use of researchers or perhaps those preparing a new inventory of the town archives, after this volume has become antiquated.

### Town Office Sketches

These sketches, written from information secured from the town meeting records, are only brief histories of the election of these officers in this town. No attempt has been made to define the duties of these officers in the sketches. The town officers' duties are established by law and do not vary from town to town. All the Vermont Statutes beginning with the origin of the state are being carefully read and eventually the duties which have been assigned to town officers will be listed and published.

### Titles

Entry titles are shown exactly as found on volumes, file drawers, boxes, or bundles. The current or most recent title of a series is used as the exact title of the entry. Variations to the entry title are listed in the title line. An exact title appears in upper case. An assigned title, which appears only when the record has no exact title, is written in upper case and enclosed in parentheses. An explanatory title, which is used in conjunction with an exact title when the title is vague or misleading, appears in lower case and enclosed in parentheses.

The same theory is applied to sub-entries, which are numbered with roman numerals within an entry. A sub-entry will never have an exact title, but when it bears a title cross reference to some other entry, it appears under the title of the entry to which it is cross referenced whether that title is actual or assigned. If the title of the entry to which a sub-entry is title cross referenced is exact, it appears with initial letters in upper case; if it is assigned it appears with initial letters in upper case and enclosed in parentheses. For sub-entries which are not title cross referenced, we have used the title by which the record is commonly known in Vermont.

### Dates

The dates that appear directly after the title are the earliest and latest dates found within the entry. Dates shown in the body of the entry or following sub-entries are the dates of that particular





## Abbreviations, Symbols and Explanatory Notes

item; where dates are not given for individual items the dates of that item are identical with those in that title line.

## Labeling

Letters or numbers placed in parentheses directly following the quantity indicate the exact labeling.

## Cross Reference

Title-line and body-of-entry cross reference to records which are a part of the same series have been used; for references to records which are related in subject matter or type the third paragraph cross references have been used. Where no cross reference is made, it may be assumed that no other records of the same or similar nature were found. References in the office essays are made to reports or records made by that office but in the custody of another.

## Indexes

Where an entry is served by a separate index, a separate entry covering the index is given immediately following the record. Where an index covers more than one entry, it is given immediately following the last entry that it serves and cross references are made between the index entry and the entries it serves.

## Condition

Records are in good condition unless otherwise noted in the inventory.

## Dimensions

Dimensions of volumes are given in order of height, width and thickness; dimensions of file boxes and drawers in order of height, width and depth. All dimensions are given in inches unless otherwise specified.

## Location

Usually the exact location of a record is given in each entry. Where the location or exact location is not given, a statement covering the location of the record may be found in the section titled "Housing, Care and Accessibility of the Records" preceding the inventory.





List of Records Covered in the Descriptive Inventory of the Archives of  
the Town of Bridport, Vermont, 1939

Title under which the vol. series, etc., is generally known	Dates Covered	Quantity
Charter	1761	1 sheet, $19\frac{1}{2} \times 15\frac{1}{2}$ .
Proprietors' Records	1761, 1783-1859, 1878	2 vols., 100-350 pp. $13 \times 8\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} - 7\frac{3}{4} \times$ $6\frac{1}{2} \times 1$ .
Town Meeting Records	1772--	5 vols., 200-800 pp. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{3}{4} - 14$ $\times 9 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ .
Annual Reports of Town Officers	1890, 1892-96, 1899--	47 vols., aver. 25 pp. $8 \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{8}$ .
Check List of Voters	1933--	6 sheets, $8\frac{1}{2} \times 10$ .
List of Persons Taking Freeman's Oath	1936--	1 vol., 70 pp. $8 \times$ $6 \times \frac{1}{2}$ .
Record of Town Officers' Bonds	1899-1923	1 vol., 94 pp. $14$ $\times 8\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ .
Land Records	1791--	22 vols., 131-350 pp. $13 \times 8 \times 2 - 13 \times 12$ $\times 4$ .
General Index to Land Records	1791-1847, 1859--	3 vols., 50-400 pp. $13 \times 8 \times \frac{1}{4} - 16 \times$ $11\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ .
Real Estate Transfers	1842--	2 vols., 100-130 pp. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 14 \times \frac{3}{4} - 12\frac{1}{2}$ $\times 7\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$ .
Personal Property and Real Estate Attachments and Executions	1824--	3 vols., 100-200 pp. $8 \times 6\frac{1}{2} \times 1 - 14 \times$ $8\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ .
Record of Liens	1877--	6 vols., 200-300 pp. $8 \times 6\frac{1}{2} \times 1 - 14 \times 9$ $\times 1$ .
Chattel Mortgage Records	1879--	3 vols., 333-483 pp. $14 \times 9\frac{1}{2} \times 2 - 16 \times$ $12 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ .
Stallion Records	1905-23	1 vol., 46 pp. $10\frac{1}{2}$ $\times 8 \times \frac{1}{2}$ .



Title under which the vol. series, etc., is generally known	Dates Covered	Quantity
Registry of Births, Marriages, and Deaths	1784-1896	2 vols., 59-150 pp. 17 x 17 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.
Record of Births	1897-1913	1 vol., 150 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.
Certificates of Birth	1903-8	1 vol., 97 certificates 8 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Certificates of Births, Marriages, Deaths and Burial Permits	1909--	5 vols., 3 envelopes. Vols., 144-323 certificates 8 x 8 x 1 - 8 x 8 x 2; envelopes, 21-84 certificates 8 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 10 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Index to Births	1936--	1 vol., 200 pp. 14 x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ .
Index to Deaths	1936--	1 vol., 200 pp. 14 x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ .
Record of Marriages	1883-1937	2 vols., 150 pp. 14 x 8 x 1.
Certificates of Marriages	1905-8, 1920-25	2 vols., aver. 33 certificates 8 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Index to Marriage Records	1791-1937	2 vols., 200 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.
Record of Deaths	1897-1916	1 vol., 150 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.
Certificates of Deaths	1903-8	1 vol., 76 certificates 8 x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Index to Birth and Death Records	1772-1935	2 vols., 200 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.
Permits for Burial, Entombment or Removal	1905-8, 1926-30	2 vols., 67-70 permits 8 x 8 x 1 - 8 x 8 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Gravestone Inscription Records	1921-31	1 vol., 118 pp. 11 x 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Dog Licenses	1937--	2 vols., 59 carbon copies 12 x 7 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .





Title under which the vol. series, etc., is generally known	Dates Covered	Quantity
Record of Animal Bounty Certificates	1899-1927	1 vol., 100 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Enrolled Militia	1863-66	1 vol., 100 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Miscellaneous Unbound Papers	1844---	13 drawers, 4 pigeon- holes. Drawers, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 14 x 11 - 13 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; pigeonholes, 13 x 7 x 4.
Record of Orders Drawn by Selectmen	1859-81, 1911- 35, 1939	1 vol., 420 pp. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 2.
Selectmens' Order Book Stubs	1931---	20 vols., aver. 100 stubs 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Tax Inventories	1937---	14 bundles, aver. 9 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Quadrennial Appraisal of Real Estate	1870---	18 vols., 50-200 pp. 16 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 11 x 17 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Abstracts of Individual Lists and Grand List	1859, 1861, 1862, 1870---	73 vols., 20-100 pp. 18 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 11 x 17 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Treasurer's Accounts	1826-66, 1916---	3 vols., 200-700 pp. 13 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ - 14 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Paid Orders of Town Officers	1934---	36 bundles, aver. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x $\frac{3}{4}$ .
Canceled Checks	1936---	40 bundles, aver. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Check Book Stubs	1933---	22 vols., 50-250 stubs 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x $\frac{1}{2}$ - 9 x 13 x 1.
Record of Taxes Assessed	1931---	23 vols., aver. 100 pp. 7 x 8 x 1.
Poll and Property Tax Receipts	1935---	3 bundles, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 x 2.
Delinquent Tax Records	1908, 1911-14, 1919-20, 1922-25, 1927, 1930-33, 1937	1 bundle, 8 x 4 x $\frac{1}{2}$ .





Title under which the vol. series, etc., is generally known	Dates Covered	Quantity
Vermont School Registers	1895, 1900, 1923--	101 vols., aver. 50 pp. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times \frac{1}{4}$ .
School Directors' Reports	1911-14	4 vols., aver. 10 pp. $8 \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 1/8$ .
Statistical Report of Schools	1919, 1921, 1924, 1928-31, 1934, 1936	9 vols., aver. 15 pp. $11 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 1/8$ .
School Directors' Accounts	1910--	1 vol., 250 pp. $16\frac{1}{2} \times 11 \times 2$ .
School Directors' Order Book Stubs	1935--	8 vols., aver. 34 stubs $3\frac{1}{4} \times 11 \times \frac{1}{4}$ .
Road Commissioners Order Book Stubs	1936--	6 vols., aver. 100 stubs $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ .
Overseer of Poor's Order Book Stubs	1935--	3 vols., aver. 100 stubs $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ .
Fence Viewers' Decision	1898-1934	1 vol., 196 pp. $13\frac{3}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 1$ .





(First entry, p. 25)

### HISTORICAL SKETCH

The town of Bridport is located in the western part of Addison County on the shore of Lake Champlain. It is bounded on the north by Addison; on the east by Weybridge and Cornwall; on the south by Shoreham; and on the west by Lake Champlain. It contains 25,000 acres by the terms of its charter. The name of the town also is spelled variously as Bredport, Bridgport and Breadport in early records. Much of the town is low lying and was considered unhealthy in early days. The water supply is frequently impregnated with epsom salts.

The land is classified as suited to intensive cultivation except for swamp land along the Lomon Fair River, a tributary of Otter Creek, which flows through the eastern part of the town.<sup>1</sup>

The northern part of Bridport was included in the grant of the Gilles Hocquartseignory by the French crown in 1745. It was sold to de Lotbiniere in 1763 and in 1776, the British government gave him an equivalent grant in Canada. Settlement under the French grant did not extend into Bridport.<sup>2</sup>

Ephriam Doolittle, a captain under Amherst in the campaigns against Crown Point, opposite Bridport, and Ticonderoga in 1754, helped to build the military road from Crown Point to Charlestown, N. H. After the campaign, he interested parties in Worcester County, Mass., in a settlement of this territory. He secured charters for Bridport and Shoreham.<sup>3</sup>

The Charter of Bridport was issued by Benning Wentworth, as governor of New Hampshire, to Ebenezer Wiswell and 63 others and bears date of October 9, 1761. The original is preserved in the town archives. The charter was registered by Ira Allen, in 1782.<sup>4</sup> This charter is not included in the attested transcript of New Hampshire charters of the Secretary of State although blank pages were left for it.<sup>5</sup> Ephriam Doolittle, Jacob Hemingway, Elijah Morton and Daniel Tilton, were grantees in both Bridport and Shoreham.<sup>6</sup> A number of military grants to officers and soldiers were made by the Province of New York in this territory infringing the New Hampshire charters. Among others were grants to C. C. Warster, Sir John St. Clair, C. V. Gardner, and a Mr. Wilkins.<sup>7</sup>

Philip Stone settled in Bridport in 1768 and five other families

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1. Land Classification Map, Vermont Extension Service.
  2. Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society, New Series, vol. 6, No. 3, pp. 233, 235.
  3. Crockett, Walter H., Vermont, The Green Mountain State, 5 vols., The Century History Company Inc., New York, 1921, vol. 1, pp. 170, 229.
  4. Mss. Surveyor General's Papers, Office of the Secretary of State, vol. 19, p. 74.
  5. Mss. Surveyor General's Papers, op. cit., vol. 19-A, p. 62.
  6. State Papers of New Hampshire, vol. 26, pp. 62, 423.
  7. Documentary History of New York, Sautier Map, vol. 1.





(First entry, p. 25)

## Historical Sketch

came in the same year. They were the Richardson and Smith families, who settled under New York titles and the Towmer, Chipman and Plumer families under the New Hampshire charter. Uncertainty as to the validity of titles discouraged permanent settlement at this time and during the Revolution the territory was in the field of operations and was evacuated.<sup>1</sup> A raid along the Lake shore was made in 1778 by the British under Major Carleton and all houses except that of Asa Hemenway in Bridport were burned.<sup>2</sup>

Further efforts at settlement became possible with the cessation of active military operations in the Champlain region and the proprietors met in Clarendon in April 1783, electing Col. Ephriam Doolittle, moderator; Nathan Smith, clerk; and Philip Stone, one of the assessors. A survey of the town was voted and the division made and drawn by lot.<sup>3</sup> There were four divisions of land drawn in Bridport. The first was for 100 acres each and the second for 200 acres. The lake frontage was held in common until it was voted to lay out lots of 50 acres each along the shore and then run them back to make 100 acres each. The fourth division comprised the village plot of one hundred acres. Sixty-eight lots of one acre each were laid out around a common.<sup>4</sup> The original records of the town were kept on loose sheets sewed together and became much worn. A book was secured and these were transcribed and legalized by an act of the assembly to be known as the "first book of records of deeds".<sup>5</sup>

The first town meeting was held on March 29, 1785 at the home of Philip Stone, who was elected moderator. John Bennett was chosen town clerk. Five selectmen were elected, being John Barber, Moses Johnson, Daniel Haskins, Isaac Barrows and Marshall Smith.<sup>6</sup> Nathan Manley was elected to represent the town in the Assembly for the 1786-87 session but did not take his seat. Philip Stone was elected in 1788, 1789 and 1790 but did not attend the 1789 session.<sup>7</sup>

A committee of three was elected at a special town meeting on September 2, 1788 to secure a preacher for three months. The following year, it was voted to raise funds by subscription and to hire a preacher if twenty pounds were subscribed.<sup>8</sup> The Congregationalist Church of

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1. Smith, H. P., History of Addison County, Vt., published by D. Mason & Co., Syracuse, N. Y., 1886, pp. 380-384.
  2. Ibid., pp. 87-90.
  3. Bridport, First Book of Records for Propriety (Proprietors' Records), vol. 1, p. 17, see entry 2.
  4. Smith, op. cit., pp. 384-385.
  5. Laws of Vermont, 1803, ch. 22.
  6. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.
  7. Constock, John M., Deming's Vermont Officers, Revised, St. Albans Messenger Co., Publishers, St. Albans, Vt., 1918, p. 94; nss. State Papers, Office of the Secretary of State, vol. 25, p. 42.
  8. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, pp. 8, 10, see entry 3.





## Historical Sketch

(First entry, p. 25)

Bridport was organized June 30, 1790 by Rev. Lemuel Hayes of West Rutland. Rev. Increase Graves was the first settled minister and received the ministerial lot.<sup>1</sup> He served for 25 years.

A meeting house, which was used for town meetings and religious services, was in existence on the village common in 1796.<sup>2</sup> A church building was erected by the Congregationalist Society in 1813.<sup>3</sup> An arrangement was made with the town for a new structure which was called the "vestry". It was located on the common and was used both for religious and town purposes. It was built in 1849.<sup>4</sup> The existing church building was completed in 1852.<sup>5</sup>

A Methodist Episcopal Society was organized in 1800.<sup>6</sup> The society united with the Baptist Society to build a union church in 1821.<sup>7</sup> This building was disposed of and the town assigned a location on the common for a new building in 1842.<sup>8</sup> Permission to build still another structure was granted in 1891 but advantage was not taken of it.<sup>9</sup>

The Baptist Society was organized in 1804. A farm and parsonage were purchased in the western part of town in 1812. They joined with Congregationalists or Methodists in the building of two church buildings at various times and built a church of their own on the farm in 1849. The society became extinct in 1877. This society was at one time the strongest in the Addison County Association.<sup>10</sup>

A union church including the Protestant denominations was organized in 1911 and continues today under Congregationalist auspices.<sup>11</sup> A Roman Catholic mission was organized in 1939 using the Grange Hall for services.

A committee was elected in 1788 at a special town meeting to divide the town into school districts. In 1790 four school trustees were elected,<sup>12</sup> There were twelve school districts in town in

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 2, p. 38, see entry 3.
  2. *Ibid.*, vol. 2, p. 46.
  3. Smith, *op. cit.*, p. 392.
  4. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 4, p. 43, see entry 3.
  5. Smith, *op. cit.*, p. 392.
  6. *Ibid.*, p. 397.
  7. Crocker, Henry, History of the Baptists in Vermont, Bellows Falls, Vt., The P. H. Goble Press Inc., 1913, p. 152.
  8. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 4, pp. 115, 116, 120, see entry 3.
  9. *Ibid.*, vol. 5, p. 131.
  10. Crocker, *op. cit.*, pp. 152, 153.
  11. Walton's Register, 1911-12.
  12. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, pp. 8, 105, see entry 3.





(First entry, p. 25)

Historical Sketch

1840.<sup>1</sup> Attendance during the school year 1848-49 was 434. The town superintendent of schools, reporting in 1861, stated that most of the schoolhouses were dilapidated, without outhouses and some had a temporary shed for wood. In 1886-87, the number of school districts had been reduced to nine, the attendance being 268. When the town school system became compulsory in 1892, the town had ten school houses, of which eight were in use. The attendance in 1893-94 was 173. The attendance reported in 1900 was 196. Attendance for 1910 was 164. At that time there was one school library and two traveling libraries in the schools.<sup>2</sup> The number of schools had been reduced to 6 in 1920 with an attendance of 97.<sup>3</sup> Seven schools, one of them a graded school, were run in 1938-39 with an attendance of 159.<sup>4</sup>

Fletcher Academy is mentioned in Bridport in 1871 with Mrs. N. E. Converse as principal, no earlier or later mention being found.<sup>5</sup> The town has no high school. Tuition is paid other towns for this purpose, the majority of the students attending the Middlebury High School. Tuition was paid for twenty-seven students in 1939.<sup>6</sup>

Three path masters were elected at the first town meeting and were instructed to lay out a road running north and south through the lake shore lots and another running east and west.<sup>7</sup> The assembly in 1786 approved a petition of the selectmen laying a tax on the town of one pence per acre, to be used for roads and bridges.<sup>8</sup> Roads both north and south; and east and west are shown on the Whitlaw Map of 1796.<sup>9</sup> The Fairhaven Turnpike Company was chartered by the Assembly in 1805 and had its northern terminus in Bridport where it connected "with the main road".<sup>10</sup> The road was completed in 1810 and was returned to the town through which it passed in 1833, when the company was dissolved.<sup>11</sup> The Bridport Turnpike Company was chartered in 1813 to be an extension of the Fairhaven Turnpike to the courthouse in Vergennes.<sup>12</sup> This charter contained a provision that persons living along it should have the right to work out their highway taxes on the turnpike and, if they did so, should be exempt from the payment of tolls. There is no record available that this turnpike was ever completed. At the present time, state routes 19 and 30A cross at Bridport and form a junction there

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1. Thompson, Zadock, History of Vermont, Burlington, published for the author by Chauncey Goodrich, 1842, part 3, p. 33.
  2. Vermont School Reports, 1848-1910, passim.
  3. Report of the State Board of Education, 1920.
  4. Annual Report (of Town Officers), 1939, p. 14, see entry 4.
  5. Walton's Register, 1871.
  6. Annual Report (of Town Officers), 1939, p. 15, see entry 4.
  7. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.
  8. State Papers of Vermont, Assembly Journals, vol. 3, part 3, p. 238.
  9. State Papers of Vermont, Charters, vol. 2, preface.
  10. Laws of Vermont, 1805, ch. XCI.
  11. Ibid., 1833, No. 54.
  12. Ibid., 1813, ch. XXXIII.







Historical Sketch

(First entry, p. 25)

with route F8, leading to West Bridport and the Crown Point Ferry.<sup>1</sup>

Bridport became involved in litigation with the town of Addison in 1852 because of a road built in Addison along the Bridport north line. The road was laid out by commissioners appointed by the county court and was to be on the line between the two towns, the expense of construction and maintenance to be divided by the two towns. The road as built was entirely in Addison, the right of way touching the line. Bridport carried the case to the supreme court for an opinion on the law. The opinion favored Bridport and reversed the lower court, holding that the road was not on the town line in the meaning of the law and that being in Addison in its entirety could have been laid out by the selectmen of that town without the intervention of commissioners and that, therefore, Bridport was not liable.<sup>2</sup>

Ferries across Lake Champlain were important in Bridport in the early years and charters, usually for ten years, were granted by the Assembly to numerous persons. The early charters were in 1811 for ferries from Well's Landing to Sandy Point, N. Y. and Putnam's Point, N. Y., later called Putt's Point.<sup>3</sup> Among the better known landings in Bridport were Catlin's, later Frost's Landing, Renne Landing, Roger's Landing and Carter's Landing. Long Point, Hood Point and Crown Point were other landings used on the New York side. The Assembly placed the granting and supervision of ferries in the hands of the selectmen in 1839.<sup>4</sup> The legislature granted a ferry in 1878 to run between Port Franklin, in the north part of Bridport, to Crown Point and Hood Point.<sup>5</sup>

Streams in Bridport did not furnish satisfactory water power for mills. There is a deed extant for one half of a mill and privileges from John Ward to Lyman Hurd, dated 1793. The nature of the mill is not stated.<sup>6</sup> There were one grist mill and four saw mills in the town in 1840.<sup>7</sup> John Hamilton, Jr., born in Bridport in 1796, was a cooper and was among the earlier manufacturers of pails by machinery.<sup>8</sup>

A tannery and leather working establishment was operated up to 1850 by Mathew Nobles. In this establishment, Arunah Huntington served his apprenticeship from 1821 to 1825. He taught in the town schools during the winter term. On his death, he left a fund amounting to more

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1. Highway Map of the State of Vermont, 1939.
  2. Vermont Reports, No. 24, p. 176 et seq.
  3. Laws of Vermont, 1811, chs. LXXX and LXXXVIII.
  4. Revised Statutes, ch. 22.
  5. Laws of Vermont, 1878, No. 234; Cross, Albert P., Index to the General and Special Legislation of the State of Vermont, Montpelier, Vt., Press of the Argus and Patriot Company, 1894, p. 55.
  6. Mss. Vermont Historical Society.
  7. Thompson, op. cit., p. 33.
  8. Child, Hamilton, Gazetteer and Business Directory of Addison County, Vt., Syracuse, N. Y., printed at the Journal Office, 1882, p. 80.





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Historical Sketch

than \$200,000.00 to the common schools of the state. This became available in 1886.<sup>1</sup> Potash salts were manufactured extensively during the clearing of the land. Samuel Buck, who came to the town in 1790 and kept one of the early stores, was a pioneer in this and the site of his works still is known as Potash Hill.<sup>2</sup>

Wheat was extensively grown up to 1825 when the land became exhausted from a lack of rotation of crops or proper fertilization. Rust and other blights also appeared and the land was given over to stock raising and later to the growing of apples, quince, peaches and pears. The fruit crop shipped was extensive and, in 1835, the town chose an inspector of hoop-poles, headings and staves.<sup>3</sup>

Sheep raising was an important industry in Bridport from 1825 to the close of the century. In 1840, Addison County was said to have the largest number of sheep for its area of any county in the United States.<sup>4</sup> Merino stock was imported and raised extensively. Bismark, a Merino ram, raised by H. C. Burwell, of Bridport, was adjudged the sweepstake prize as the best American Merino ram of all ages at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876.<sup>5</sup> There were 27,228 sheep in the town in 1840.<sup>6</sup> Figures steadily decreased from that time until only 948 sheep were reported in 1932.<sup>7</sup>

Beef cattle, both for meat and dairy purposes, were introduced in large numbers and in 1840 there were 4,672 beef cattle in the town.<sup>8</sup> This number remained virtually unchanged until 1932 when 4,528 head were reported.<sup>9</sup> Under the campaign for herd improvement, this number has been reduced, but milk production has increased. The report for 1938 gives 2,369 head. The liquid milk is shipped through the New England Dairies Inc., operating under the Vermont Cooperative Marketing Act of 1931.<sup>10</sup> The inhabitants from the organization of the town kept a register of marks for their cattle and these are carefully recorded for the years 1786-1792.<sup>11</sup>

Great interest was taken in Bridport in the raising of horses of

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1. Smith, op. cit., p. 393.
  2. Ibid., pp. 391, 393.
  3. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 4, p. 4, see entry 3; Smith, op. cit., p. 394.
  4. Swift, Samuel, Statistical and Historical Account of the County of Addison, Vermont, Middlebury, Vt., A. H. Copeland, 1859, p. 99.
  5. Child, op. cit., p. 74.
  6. Thompson, op. cit., p. 33.
  7. Vermont Agricultural Reports, 1932.
  8. Thompson, op. cit., p. 33.
  9. Vermont Agricultural Reports, 1932.
  10. Vermont Milk Report, by the Special Milk Investigation Committee, pursuant to an Act of the Legislature of 1937.
  11. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, pp. 17, 18, see entry 3.





Historical Sketch

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the Morgan strain. The pedigrees of a number of famous stallions are registered in the town records. Black Hawk, brought to Bridport in 1844 by David Hill, was a grandson of Justin Morgan, through Sherman. He was considered a champion at long distance trotting and won many races, but was better known as a fine example of the fast driving horse and as a sire. Among hundreds of sons of his was Ethan Allen, foaled in 1849, and considered in his day the fastest trotting horse on the turf. Another famous son was Sherman Black Hawk, foaled in 1845 and owned by B. J. Myrick of Bridport. Others owned in Bridport were Black Hawk Chief and Wild-Air. Also owned by David Hill was a stallion called Sir Charles, although not of the Morgan strain.<sup>1</sup>

The Bridport Driving Park Association was organized in 1887 by breeders and continued until 1906 when its incorporation was allowed to lapse.<sup>2</sup>

Patents for an improved pinion for mowing machines, harvesters and other machines and also for an improved blast furnace were received in 1840 by Virgil Blanchard. There is no evidence that he endeavored to exploit them in Bridport.<sup>3</sup>

Bridport has undergone no changes in its boundaries since the first surveys. The inhabitants of Cornwall sent a petition to the Assembly in 1808 asking that a part of Bridport be annexed to Cornwall but this was not approved.<sup>4</sup>

Benjamin Miner, Jr., for many years a justice of the peace and several times town representative, cleared the brush for the digging of the first grave in the town in 1786 in what is now the Central Cemetery. This was for the burial of Isaac Richman on April 28, 1786.<sup>5</sup> The cemetery was laid out later that same year.<sup>6</sup> What is called the Pine Hill Cemetery was laid out near the lake of West Bridport and the Town Line Cemetery in the northwest part of the town.<sup>7</sup>

The poor of the town have been cared for under the supervision of an overseer from its organization. The town farm plan was never adopted by the town.<sup>8</sup> Early town meetings were held in private residences or buildings shared with religious organizations. The present town

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1. Linsley, D. C., Morgan Horses, New York, C. M. Saxton and Company, No. 140 Fulton Street, 1857, passim.
  2. Corporation Files, Secretary of State's Office, vol. 1, p. 419.
  3. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 3, pp. 142-147, see entry 3.
  4. Governor and Council, Vol. V, p. 196.
  5. Smith, op. cit., p. 385.
  6. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 13, see entry 3.
  7. Vermont Year Book, 1939.
  8. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), passim, see entry 3.





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Historical Sketch

house was built in 1869 and was extensively repaired in 1938.<sup>1</sup> The town house was built in connection with school district number 6 and still is used for school purposes.<sup>2</sup>

Bridport enjoyed national prominence for a time during the Hayes-Tilden campaign of 1876. H. N. Sollace, then postmaster in Bridport, was chosen as one of the five presidential electors from Vermont, but was declared to be ineligible because he held a federal office. An act was rushed through the state legislature empowering the remaining electors to fill vacancies. Meanwhile, Sollace had resigned as postmaster and was elected to fill the vacancy caused by his former ineligibility. The count of electors was so close that the result depended on the vote of the Vermont delegation. The fight against the election of Sollace was carried to the floor of Congress and the vote was held up. The fight in Congress lasted more than two months until shortly before midnight of March 1, when the Sollace vote was allowed and Rutherford B. Hayes was declared elected.<sup>3</sup>

The population of Bridport, according to United States census reports, has been as follows: 1790:449; 1800:1124; 1810:1520; 1820:1511; 1830:1774; 1840:1480; 1850:1393; 1860:1298; 1870:1171; 1880:1167; 1890:1018; 1900:956; 1910:848; 1920:745; 1930:703.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), passim, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vol. 4, pp. 482, 483, 490.
  3. Crockett, op. cit., vol. IV, pp. 82-88.

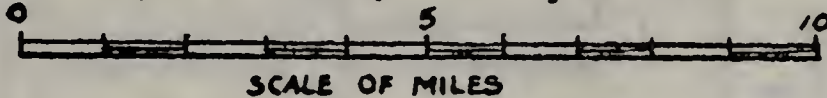




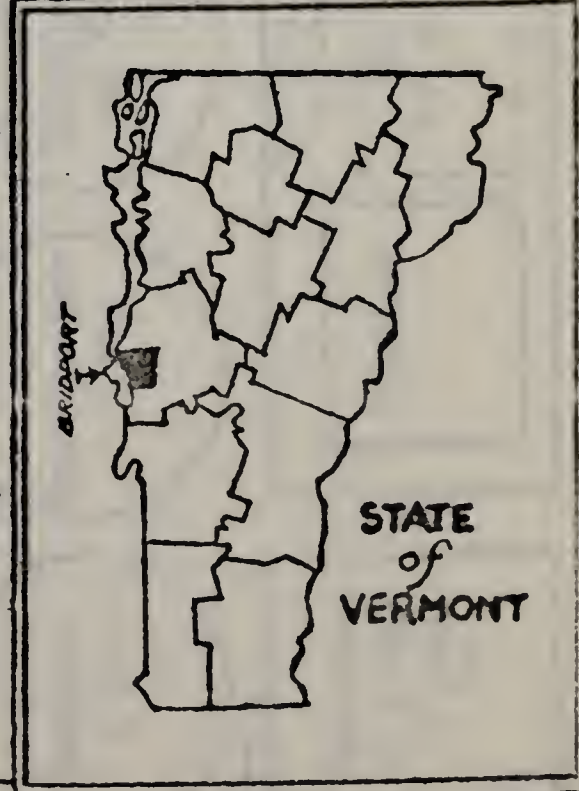
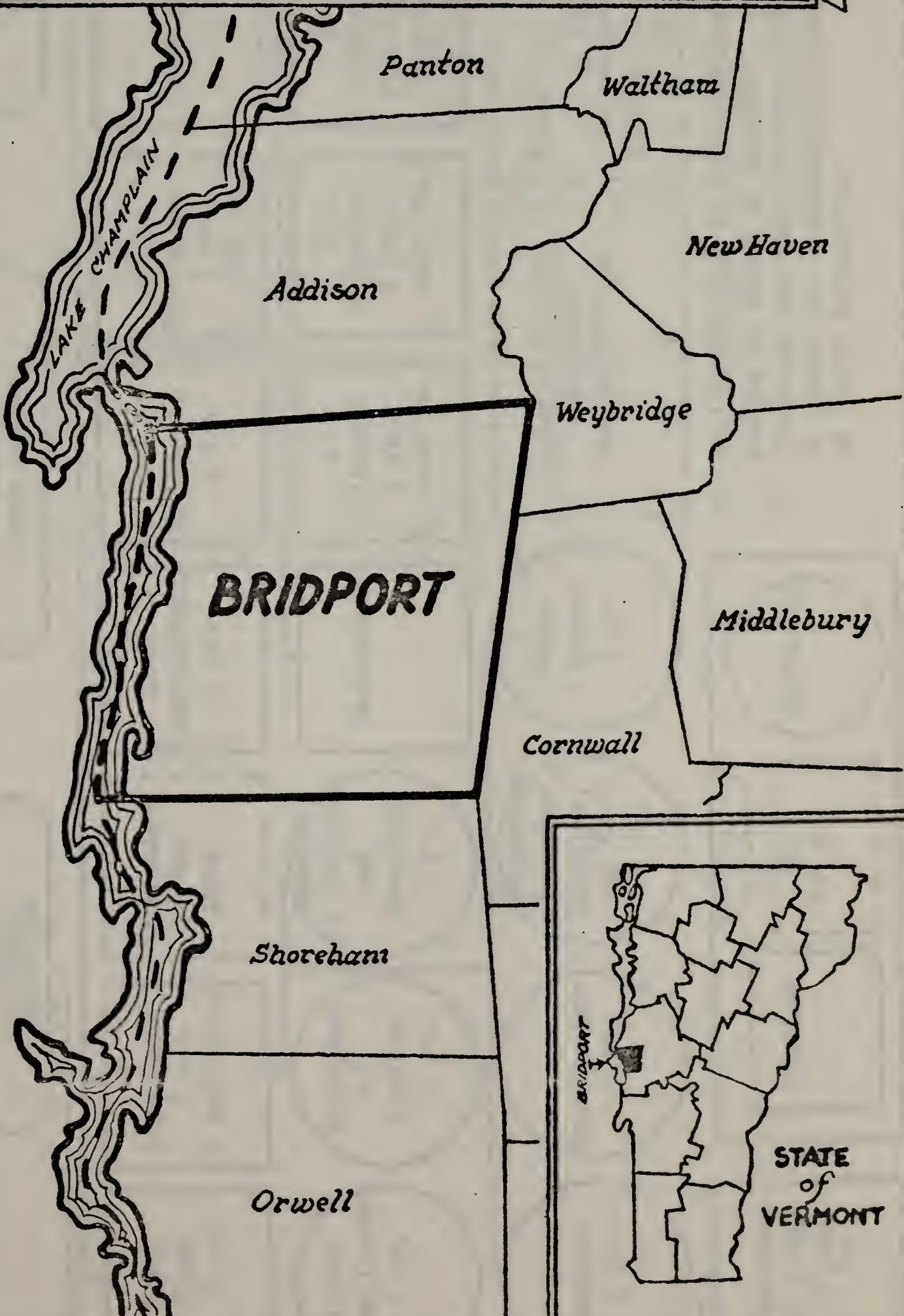
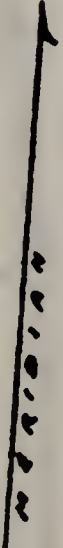


# TOWN OF BRIDPORT 1939

(Unchanged since granting of Charter 1761)



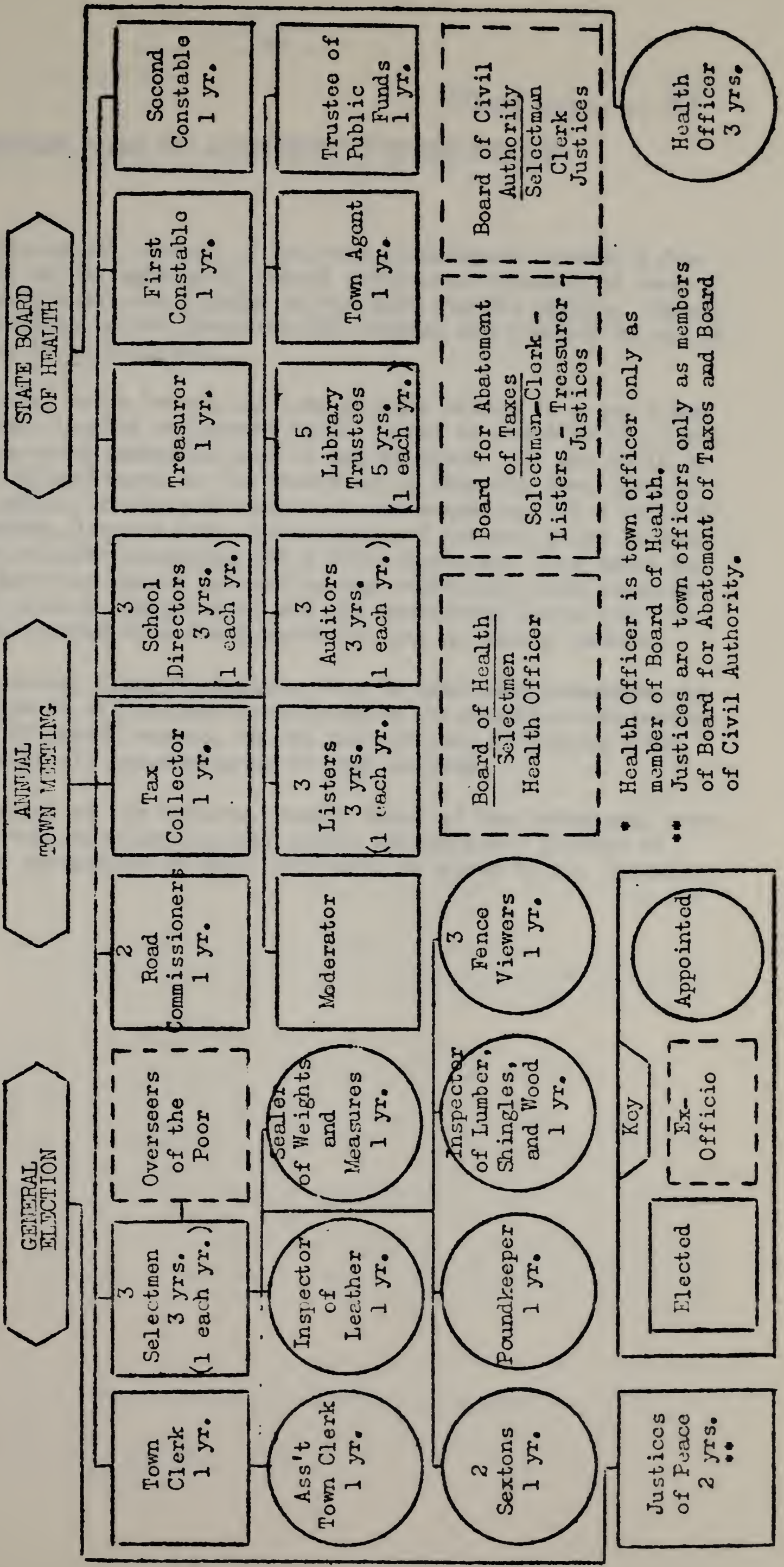
NEW YORK







# DIAGRAM OF TOWN GOVERNMENT OF BRIDPORT 1939









(First entry, p. 25)

## HOUSING, CARE AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

All of the extant records of the town of Bridport, except a few of the records of the selectmen, school directors, overseer of poor and road commissioner, are located in the town clerk's office. Unless otherwise specified in the inventory all records are located in one of the four safes in this office.

The building which houses the town clerk's office is a one story wooden structure located on Vermont Route 30 and is owned by the town. The building is constructed so that it may be moved. It was built in 1936. The attic mentioned in the inventory is over the town clerk's office. The office consists of only one room measuring 14' x 19' x 8'. It is well heated, lighted with electricity and natural light is furnished by five windows measuring 28" x 56". There are four safes located in the northern end of the office each measuring approximately 2' x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' x 2' inside. These safes are all considered fireproof. The office is also equiped with two typewriters and an adding machine.

The town clerk, Harry N. Sollace, who is also town treasurer, is very cooperative in all matters pertaining to the records, continuing the tradition of unpaid service on the part of town officials. The office is open at all reasonable hours upon request.

The remainder of the records, namely those of the selectmen, overseer of poor, road commissioner and school director are located at the respective residences of those officers, as shown in the inventory.





## TOWN OFFICES AND THEIR RECORDS

### I. TOWN CLERK

A town clerk was elected at the first town meeting held March 29, 1785 to serve for a term of one year.<sup>1</sup> A town clerk has been elected annually for a similar term since that time.<sup>2</sup> Since 1898 an assistant town clerk has been appointed annually by the town clerk.<sup>3</sup> For printed copy of financial report for voters, see entry 4-xvi.

#### Governmental

1. (CHARTER), October 9, 1761. 1 sheet.

Original charter of grant by George III and the Province of New Hampshire to proprietors by name, defining boundaries, conditions of grants, setting off public lands, signatures of governor and secretary, certification of recording in the New Hampshire Book of Charters, pp. 237-38, date recorded, and clerk's attest. Hdw. on printed form.

Condition poor.  $19\frac{1}{2} \times 15\frac{1}{2}$ .

For copy of charter, see entry 2-i.

2. BRIDPORT, FIRST BOOK OF RECORDS FOR PROPRIETY (Proprietors' Records), 1761, 1783-1859, 1878. 2 vols. (1; and one un-numbered). No title, 1844-59, 1 vol.

Record of minutes of proprietors' meetings, 1783-89, 1844-45, 1848-49, 1859, showing place, date and time meeting held, election of officers; business transacted by the proprietors, and clerk's attest; adjournment showing time and place next meeting to be held.

Also contains miscellaneous recorded items, viz:

- i. Charter, copy of, 1761, showing information as in entry 1; vol. 1.
- ii. Division of lots, 1787-1845 scattered dates, showing names of proprietors, and number of lot of each as drawn in the first, second, third, and fourth divisions; occasional attest of clerk; vol. 1.
- iii. (Highway Surveys), 1783-86, entry 45.
- iv. Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, 1783-85, entry 6.
- v. (Land Surveys), 1783-86, entry 11.
- vi. Leased land rents, 1878, showing name of lessee, number of acres rented, name of former tenant, amount paid on rent, totals; vol. 1.
- vii. Personal (Property and Real Estate) Attachments (and Executions), 1785, entry 13.
- viii. Town plat, 1786: sketch of town drawn into volume, showing lots and lot numbers, common land, highways, boundaries of each lot, directions and monuments, name of signer.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.

2. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.

3. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.





(3)

Town Clerk - Governmental

surveyor, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 1.  
Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. 100-350 pp. 13 x 8 $\frac{1}{4}$  =  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1.

3. TOWN BOOK (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), 1772--.  
5 vols. (1-5). Title varies: Town Business, 1772-1873, vols.  
1, 2, 4; Births, Marriages and Deaths, also Town Book No. 3,  
1813-98, vol. 3.

Record of warnings and minutes of annual and special town meetings,  
1785--: warnings, show place, date and time meeting to be held,  
purpose of meeting, names of signers-selectmen; and minutes, show  
place and date meeting held, election of officers, officers' reports,  
action taken by town on articles of warning and other town affairs;  
date recorded; and clerk's attest.

For related warning records, see entry 4-xvii.

Also contains miscellaneous recorded items, viz:

- i. Adoptions, 1872, showing statutory authority, name of person  
adopted, date of adoption, names of persons adopting,  
names of signers-principals and witnesses, affidavit,  
date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 3.
- ii. Bank returns, 1832-46, showing name of bank, date of return,  
itemized statement, balance, name of signer-cashier, and  
clerk's attest; vols. 3, 4.
- iii. (Birth Records), 1772-1841, entry 19.
- iv. Business licenses, 1891-1913, showing name and address of  
licensee, conditions and term of license, date issued,  
names of signers-selectmen, date recorded, and clerk's  
attest; vol. 5.
- v. Business permits, 1891-1913, showing name and address of  
applicant, purpose of permit, date issued, term of per-  
mit, date permit expires, names of signers-selectmen,  
date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 5.
- vi. (Death Records), 1793-1898, entry 21.
- vii. Denomination certificate, 1798, showing name of person, name  
of church, name of signer-elder, date of certification;  
vol. 2.
- viii. Earmarks, 1786-1847: record of identification marks for  
cattle, showing name of owner, description of mark, date  
recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1-3.
- ix. (Estray Records), 1789-1880 scattered dates, entry 17.
- x. Fence Records, 1815, entry 64.
- xi. Freeman's meetings, 1794--: record of warnings and minutes of  
freemen's meetings for primary and general elections of  
county, state and federal officers: warnings, show  
place, date and time meeting to be held, purpose of  
meeting, name of signer-constable; and minutes, show  
place and date meeting held, list of candidates, tab-  
ulation of ballots; date recorded; and clerk's attest;  
vols. 2-5.
- xii. Highway district alterations, 1855, 1876: petition for alter-  
ation, showing place, date and purpose of petition, high-  
way district number, names of persons to whom petition  
was addressed, and names of signers-petitioners; alter-  
ations, showing place, date and reason of meeting,





Town Clerk - Governmental

(3)

- division of district, description of division, new district number, names of signers-selectmen, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 4, 5.
- xiii. (Highway Surveys), 1785-1849, entry 45.
  - xiv. Inventions (Blanchard's), 1805-66, showing diagram and specifications for two improved pinions and gears for transmission of power in mowing machines, and one improved method of work for blast furnaces in iron and steel production, certification by justice of the peace, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 3.
  - xv. Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, 1784-1803, entry 8.
  - xvi. (Land Taxes and Vendues), 1788-99, entry 10.
  - xvii. License, 1840: permission to exhibit a menagerie in Bridport, showing name of licensee, date of license, duration of license, fee paid, names of signers-selectmen, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 3.
  - xviii. Liquor licenses, 1850-68, showing name and address of licensee; grant, purpose, conditions and term of license; date issued, names of signers-commissioners, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 4.
  - xix. (Marriage Records), 1791-1810, 1813-1935 scattered dates, entry 20.
  - xx. Officers' appointments, 1860-- , showing date and place of appointment, name of appointee, office held, term of office, names of signers-selectmen, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 4, 5. For original papers, 1920, 1930-- , see entry 42-v.
  - xxi. Officers' oaths, 1883-- , showing date and place oath was taken, name of officer sworn, office held, copy of oath, clerk's attest; vol. 5. For original papers, 1920-29, see entry 42-vi.
  - xxii. Ordination of minister, 1808, showing name of minister, date ordained, denomination of church, names of signers-church committee, place and date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 2.
  - xxiii. Personal (Property and Real Estate) Attachments (and Executions), 1792-1807, entry 13.
  - xxiv. (Roads Discontinued), 1834-37, entry 46.
  - xxv. Road mileages, 1898-- : record of sworn statement by selectmen, showing number of miles of traveled highways not including pent roads and trails, total number of miles of new and discontinued roads during the past year, names of signers-selectmen, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 5. For original certificates, 1908-- scattered dates, see entry 42-x.
  - xxvi. School census, 1798-1836, showing names and ages of scholars by districts, name of signer-district clerk, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 2.
  - xxvii. School district survey, 1848-51, showing report of committee to divide town into school districts, descriptions and boundaries of each district, names of signers-committee members, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 4.
  - xxviii. School district, discontinuance of, 1888: petition for





(4)

Town Clerk - Governmental

discontinuance, showing name of judge petitioned and authority for petition, date and reason for petition, school district number, names of signers-petitioners; record of appointment of justices of peace by judge, showing names and residences of justices, and instructions for their procedure in settling the dispute in question; date recorded, name of signer-judge of Addison County court; record of meeting of justices with legal voters of school district, showing date and place meeting held, business transacted, statement of discontinuance of school district, names of signers-justices, bill of fees, date recorded, and town clerk's attest; vol. 5.

xxix. School property, appraisal of, 1893, showing location of property, school district number, appraisal of house sites and other school property, statement of indebtedness assumed by town if any, date of appraisal, names of signers-selectmen, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 5.

xxx. Teacher's licenses, 1846-68, showing place and date issued, name and qualification of teacher, term of license, name(s) of signer(s)-superintendent(s) of common schools, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 4.

xxxi. Warnings to leave town, 1806-12, showing place and date issued, instructions to constable, names of persons warned, names of signers-selectmen; constable's return of service of warrant, showing place and date of service, name of person warned, constable's fees, name of signer-constable; date recorded; and clerk's attest; vols. 2, 3.

Chron. entry. Vol. 1, 1734-1807, vol. 5, 1874--., indexed alph. by type of contents; vols. 2-4, 1772-1898, no index; vol. 3, 1813-98, partial table of contents. For separate index to births and deaths, see entry 36; to marriages, see entry 33. Hdw. Vol. 1, 1784-1807, condition poor; vols. 2-5, 1772--., condition fair. 200-800 pp.  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$  -  $14 \times 9 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ .

4. ANNUAL REPORT (of Town Officers), 1890, 1892-96, 1899--. 47 vols. and 17 duplicate vols. for 1892, 1901, 1920, 1923-24, 1926-27, 1929, 1931--. Title varies slightly. Also 44 duplicate vols. for 1895-1901, 1903-- in Vermont State Library at Montpelier.

Contains:

- i. Auditors reports and balance sheet with debit and credit entries and balance.
- ii. Bar charts, 1936--., comparing departmental receipts and disbursements for preceding five years.
- iii. Births, reports of, 1922--., showing name and date of birth of child, names of parents. For birth records, see entry 19.
- iv. Cemetery trust fund, report of, 1917--., showing statement of receipts and disbursements, cash on hand, balance.
- v. Deaths, reports of, 1926--., showing name of deceased, date of death. For death records, see entry 21.
- vi. Health officers' report, 1921-22, 1926, showing work done during past year and necessary taxes for ensuing year.





Town Clerk - Governmental

(5-6)

- vii. Items of interest, 1936, showing total grand list for the town, tax rate, receipts and expenditures.
  - viii. Marriages, reports of, 1926--, showing names of bride and groom, date of marriage. For marriage records, see entry 20.
  - ix. Officers elected, list of, 1899--, showing name of officer, office held, date of tenure.
  - x. Orders drawn by, list of: overseer of poor and road commissioner, 1890, 1892-96, 1899-1926, 1928-30, 1932, 1934, 1936--; school directors and selectmen, 1894-96, 1899-1926, 1928-30, 1932, 1934, 1936--, showing name of payee, date, order number, purpose and amount, totals.
  - xi. Old age assistance report, 1938, showing report on money obtained from old age assistance department.
  - xii. Receipts, disbursements and balance by, report of: library trustees, 1912--; road commissioners and selectmen, 1890, 1892-96, 1899-1926, 1928-30, 1932, 1934, 1936--; school directors, 1911, 1916--; treasurer, 1890, 1892-96, 1899--; trustees of public funds and trustee of public money, 1917--.
  - xiii. School superintendent's report on school attendance, 1932, showing number of pupils enrolled in each school, number of advanced students, number furnished with transportation money, number of absences, percent of attendance, list of graduates from eighth grade, list of those having perfect attendance, names of winners of annual spelling contest, name of superintendent. For reports, 1911-14, see entry 58-iii.
  - xiv. State fox bounty, 1901-6, showing balance deficiency reported at last settlement, number of vouchers paid, reimbursement of treasury on error of paid voucher, auditor's warrants, present balance deficiency.
  - xv. Tax assessments, report of, 1904-32, showing amount of tax bill delivered to treasurer, corrections and omissions of bill, discount allowed, warrants issued against delinquent taxpayers, number of delinquents and amount of each, net taxes received by collector, amount due treasurer, net credit for town grand list, and tax voted.
  - xvi. Town clerk's account with vital statistic certificates, 1909, 1913--, showing name of doctor to whom certificates are issued, type and number of certificates issued, and amount of money received.
  - xvii. Warnings for town meetings, 1937--, showing date, place and time meeting to be held, articles to be acted upon, names of selectmen. For related records, see entry 3.
- No arr. No index. Printed. Aver. 25 pp. 8 x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ .

5. (CHECK LIST OF VOTERS), 1933--. 6 sheets.  
Alphabetical list of person eligible to vote with a check beside name indicating that person cast ballot. No index. Typed. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 10.

6. FREEMAN'S OATH, 1936--. 1 vol.  
List of persons taking freemen's oath, showing date oath was taken,







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name of person taking oath, initials of person administering oath. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of person, within each year. No index. Hdw. 70 pp. 8 x 6 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

7. RECORD OF TOWN OFFICERS' BONDS, 1899-1923. 1 vol. Names of principal(s) and sureties; amount, date, conditions and terms of bond; office held; names of signers-witnesses, principal(s) and sureties; date and names of signers-selectmen for acceptance and approval; date and time recorded; and clerk's attest. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 94 pp. 14 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

For original bonds, 1899, 1900, 1906-9, 1911-15, 1924, 1938, see entry 42-viii.

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8. LAND (and Miscellaneous) RECORDS, 1791--. 22 vols. (2-20, 1A, 2A, one vol. unnumbered). Title varies: Land Records, and Misc. Entries, 1803-9, vol. 3; Mortgage Records, 1911--., 1A, 2A; Mortgage Deed, 1929, 1 vol. 1784-1803 in vol. 1 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-xv; 1783-85 in vol. 1 of Bridport, First Book of Records for Propriety (Proprietors' Records), entry 2-iv.

Land records: deeds, mortgages, leases, assignments, indentures and other instruments affecting transfer of title to real estate, showing names of principals, consideration, description of property, conditions and date of instrument, recital of title, names of signers-principals and witnesses, acknowledgment, date and time recorded, and clerk's attest; occasionally showing marginal notations discharging instruments. For original deeds and mortgages, 1844-- scattered dates, see entries 42-iii and 42-iv respectively.

Also contains miscellaneous recorded items, viz:

- i. Church records, 1813-28: record of sale of church pews, showing pew number, name of church (Congregational), amount paid, location of pew, name of person assigned, date and attest of proprietor's clerk, date and attest of town clerk; vol. 5.
- ii. (Estray Records), 1816, entry 17.
- iii. Fence Records, 1817, 1896-97, entry 64.
- iv. (Land Surveys), 1854, entry 11.
- v. (Land Taxes and Vendues), 1790, 1798, 1808, 1812-13, entry 10.
- vi. Personal (Property and Real Estate) Attachments (and Executions), 1804-69, entry 13.
- vii. (Roads Discontinued), 1860, entry 46.

Chron. entry. Vols. 2-10, 1791-1841, indexed alph. under first letter of surname of grantor-grantee for land records; vols. 11-13, 15-20, 1A, 2A, 1841-59, 1869--., indexed alph. under first letter of surname of grantor-grantee, grantee-grantor for land records; vol. 14, 1859-69, and vol. for 1929 no index; partial table of contents for miscellaneous items in all vols.; also separate index to land records, see entry 9. Vols. 2-19, 1791-1935, hdw.; vols. 20, 1A, 2A, 1911--., hdw. and hdw. on printed forms; vol. for 1929, printed. 131-550 pp. 13 x 8 x 2 - 16 x 12 x 4.

9. GENERAL INDEX (to Land Records), 1791-1847, 1859--. 3 vols.





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Title varies: General Index to Land Records, 1859-1906, 1 vol.; no title, 1791-1847, 1 vol.

Index to instruments affecting land ownership in volumes 2-11, 14-20, 1A, 2A, of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 8, showing names of grantor-grantee, grantee-grantor, volume and page reference. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of grantor-grantee, grantee-grantor, and chron. thereunder. Vols. 1791-1847, 1859-1906, hdw.; vol. 1906-- hdw. under printed headings. Vols. for 1791-1847, 1859-1906, condition poor. 50-400 pp.  $13 \times 8 \times \frac{1}{4}$  -  $13 \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ .

10. (LAND TAXES AND VENDUES), 1788-99, 1808, 1812-13. 1788-99 in vol. 1 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-xvi; 1790, 1798, 1808, 1812-13 in vols. 2, 3, 5, of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 3-v.

Copies of tax assessments as published in newspapers giving name of paper, dates published, purpose of tax, method and date of payment, date of notice, names of signers-committee; notices of public vendues to satisfy unpaid taxes, showing date of notice, place and date of vendue, name of signer-collector, certification of oath, place and date recorded, and clerk's attest; list of lands and record of sale, showing proprietor's name, division and lot number, number of acres, amount of tax, date sold, name of purchaser, amount of tax and cost, when and by whom redeemed if redeemed, attest of committee and collector; list of unredeemed land sold and purchasers' names; vendue deeds, showing names of principals, consideration, description of property, conditions, and date of deed, recital of title, names of signers-collectors and witnesses, acknowledgment, date and time recorded, and clerk's attest.

11. (LAND SURVEYS), 1783-86, 1854. 1783-86 in vol. 1 of Bridport, First Book of Records for Propriety (Proprietors' Records), entry 2-v; 1854 in vol. 13 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 8-iv.

Record of land surveys, showing date and description of survey, owners' name, lot number, number of acres, location of land, names of signers-surveyor and chain committee, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

12. REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS, 1842--. 2 vols. Title varies: Book of Transfers of Real Estate in Bridport, 1842-1902, 1 vol.

Record of transfers of real estate, showing date filed for record, names of grantors and grantees or mortgagors and mortgagees, land record volume and page references where instrument is recorded, form of deed, consideration named in deed, indebtedness secured if mortgaged, acres, brief description. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of grantor-grantee, mortgagor-mortgagee, and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. under printed headings. 100-130 pp.  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 14 \times \frac{3}{4}$  -  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$ .

13. PERSONAL (Property and Real Estate) ATTACHMENTS (and Executions), 1824--. 3 vols. (1, 2, 2). Title varies: Book No. 1 of Writs, 1824-49; Attachments, 1849-1900, Book No. 2 1785 in vol. 1 of Bridport, First Book of Records for Propriety (Proprietors' Records), entry 2-vii; 1792-1807 in vol.





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1 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-xxiii; 1804-69 in vols. 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 15 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 8-vi.

Attachments, showing name of defendant, ad damnum, summons, place and time of appearance, name of plaintiff, plea, amount of debt, summons of trustee if any, date of writ, name of signer-issuing officer, recognition of surety for costs of prosecution, amount of bond, attest of court, name and location of court, remarks; officer's return of service, showing date and place of service, property attached, date and place of filing, name of signer-serving officer, date recorded, and clerk's attest. Release of attachments, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, statement of release, date of release, name of signer-plaintiff's attorney, clerk's attest, and date recorded. Executions, showing name and residence of plaintiff, county, name, location and date of court, name of defendant, residence, county, amount of damages and costs; officer's return of service, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date and place of service, description of property levied on, name of signer-serving officer, date recorded, and clerk's attest. Judgment, showing amount of costs, place, county, and date when issued, name of signer-judge or clerk; after 1879 only abstract of the above records were shown.

For original writs, 1855-- scattered dates, see entry 42-xi.

Also contains:

i. (Lien) Records, 1873-77, entry 14.

Vols. 1, 2, 1824-1900, chron. entry; vol. 2, 1889--, entered alph. under first letter of surname of defendant-plaintiff, and chron. thereunder. Vols. 1, 2, 1824-1900, indexed alph. under first letter of surname of plaintiff-defendant for attachments; no index to lien notes; vol. 2, 1889--, no index. Vols. 1, 2, 1824-1900, hdw.; vol. 2, 1889--, hdw. under printed headings. 100-200 pp. 8 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 - 14 x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

14. (Lien) RECORDS, 1877--. 6 vols. (2-7). Title varies: Book of Liens, 1877-1907, vol. 2; Conditional Sales and Lien Notes, 1908-34, vols. 3-5. 1873-77 in vol. 2 of Personal (Property and Real Estate) Attachments (and Executions), entry 13-i.

Record of and copies of lien notes, showing names of principals, description of property, date and amount of note, terms of payment, names of signers-maker and witnesses, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

Also contains:

i. (Conditional Sale Contracts), 1881--, entry 15.

Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of vendor-vendee, vendee-vendor. Vol. 2, 1877-1907, hdw.; vols. 3-7, 1908--, hdw., some printed forms pasted in. 200-300 pp. 8 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 - 14 x 9 x 1.

15. (CONDITIONAL SALE CONTRACTS), 1881--. 1881-- in vols. 2-7 of (Lien) Records, entry 14-i; 1911-35 also in (Record of Orders Drawn by Selectmen), entry 43-ii.

Record of and copies of conditional sale contracts, showing names of vendor and vendee, description of property; date, amount, and conditions of sale; names of signers-vendor and vendee, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

16. CHATTEL MORTGAGE RECORDS, 1879--. 3 vols. (1-3). Title





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varies: Personal Mortgages, 1879-1932, vols. 1, 2. 1920-21, 1939 also in (Record of Orders Drawn by Selectmen), entry 43-i. Record of mortgages on personal property, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, consideration, description of property, conditions and date of mortgage, names of signers-mortgagors and witnesses, acknowledgment, affidavit and oath of both parties, certification, date recorded, and clerk's attest. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of mortgagor-mortgagee, mortgagee-mortgagor. Vols. 1-2, 1879-1932, hdw.; vol. 3, 1931--, hdw. on printed forms. 333-483 pp. 14 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 2 - 16 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

17. (ESTRAY RECORDS), 1789-1880. 1789-1880 scattered dates in vols. 1-3, 5 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-ix; 1816 also in vol. 6 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 8-ii.

Record of notices of stray animals, showing description of stray animal, date of trespass; request to prove ownership, pay charges and remove; date of notice, name of signer-person giving notice, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

18. STALLION RECORD IN TOWN OF BRIDPORT, VT., 1905-23. 1 vol. Copy of certificates, showing place where stallion is kept; name, age, color, size, weight, and pedigree of stallion; name of breeder, name of owner, certification by notary public, date and attest of town clerk. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 46 pp. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Vital Statistics

19. (BIRTH RECORDS), 1772-1841. In vols. 2, 3 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-iii.

Family records of births, showing names of parents and occasionally mothers' maiden name, name of child, date and place of birth, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

For related records, 1857-1913, see entries 22-i, 23; for birth certificates, see entry 24; for birth reports, see entry 4-iii.

20. (MARRIAGE RECORDS), 1791-1810, 1813-1935 scattered dates. In vols. 2-5 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-xix.

Record of marriages, showing date and place of marriage, names and usually residences of bride and groom, attest of performing official, date recorded and clerk's attest.

For related records, 1857-1937, see entries 22-iii, 31; for marriage certificates, see entry 32; for marriage reports, see entry 4-viii.

21. (DEATH RECORDS), 1793-1898. In vols. 2, 3 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-vi.

Family records of deaths, showing name, age, date and place of death of deceased; name of parents, husband or wife; date recorded, and clerk's attest.

For related records, 1857-1916, see entries 22-ii, 34; for





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Town Clerk - Vital Statistics

death certificates, see entry 35; for death reports, see entry 4-v.

22. REGISTRY OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS, 1784-1896. 2 vols. (1, 2). Title varies: Records of Marriages, Births and Deaths, 1857-68, vol. 1.

Contains:

- i. Births, 1857-96, showing name, sex, condition, date and place of birth of child; names, residences and birthplaces of parents; father's occupation. For related records, 1772-1841, see entry 19.
- ii. Deaths, 1857-96, showing name, age, sex, condition, place of birth and date and place of death of deceased; disease or cause of death, occupation of male if over 15 years of age; names of parents. For related records, 1793-1898, see entry 21.
- iii. Marriages, 1857-83, showing name, age, residences and birthplaces of bride and groom; date of marriage, names of parents, occupation of groom, number of marriage of groom and bride, name and title of officiating person. For related records, 1791-1810, 1813-1935 scattered dates, see entry 20.

Also contains:

- iv. Cemetery (Gravestone Inscription) Records, 1784-1870, entry 38.

Chron. entry under separate divisions. For index to births and deaths, see entry 36; to marriages, see entry 33. Hdw. on printed forms. 59-150 pp. 17 x 17 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1.

23. RECORD OF BIRTHS, 1897-1913. 1 vol. (3).

Showing information as in entry 22-i, adding date recorded, race or color of child, name of medical attendant. Chron. entry. For index, see entry 36. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.

24. BIRTHS, 1903-8. 1 vol. 1909-14, 1926-30 in Vital Statistics, Marriages, Births, Deaths, entry 25-i; 1915-20, 1931-35 in Births, Marriages, Deaths, Burials, entry 26-i; 1921-25 in Births, Deaths, Burial, entry 27-i; 1936-- in (Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Burials), entry 28-i.

Original birth certificates, showing number of certificate; county, town or city; name, sex, color, date and place of birth of child; number of child of mother; names, ages, and birthplaces of parents; residence of mother, father's occupation, condition of child as to live or stillbirth, cause if stillbirth, date of record, certification, signature and address of informant, date received for record; 1920-- adds whether twin, triplet or other and number in order of such birth; statement as to legitimacy, color of parents, occupation of mother; certificate of attending physician or midwife, showing signature and address, condition of child at birth, time of birth, date filed, signature of clerk; 1929-- adds whether premature or full term, number and period of stillborn children of mother; specific trade or profession of parents, industry in which worked, date last engaged and total time spent in such work. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of child; also separate index, see entry 36.





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Hdw. on printed forms. 97 certificates, 184 pp. 8 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
For birth records, see entry 19.

25. VITAL STATISTICS, MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, DEATHS, 1909-14, 1926-30. 2 vols. Title varies: Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1909-14, 1 vol.

Contains:

- i. Births, entry 24.
- ii. Deaths, entry 35.
- iii. Marriages, entry 32.
- iv. Vital Statistics, Burials, 1909-14, entry 37.

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Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of child for births; deceased for deaths and burial permits; groom-bride, bride-groom for marriages in vol. for 1909-14 and groom-bride in vol. for 1926-30; also separate index to births and deaths, see entry 36; to marriages, see entry 33. Hdw. or typed on printed forms. 144-287 certificates, 288-574 pp. 8 x 8 x 1 - 8 x 8 x 2.

26. BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, BURIALS, 1915-20, 1931-35. 2 vols. Title varies: Births, Marriages, Deaths, Bur. Permits, 1915-20, 1 vol.

Contains:

- i. Births, entry 24.
- ii. Deaths, entry 35.
- iii. Marriages, entry 32.
- iv. Vital Statistics, Burials, entry 37.

Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of; child for births; deceased for deaths and burial permits; groom-bride for marriages in vol. for 1915-20, and groom in vol. for 1931-35; also separate index to births and deaths, see entry 36; to marriages, see entry 33. Hdw. or typed on printed forms. 192-323 certificates, 384-646 pp. 8 x 8 x 1 - 8 x 8 x 2.

27. BIRTHS, DEATHS, BURIAL, 1921-25. 1 vol.

Contains:

- i. Births, entry 24.
- ii. Deaths, entry 35.
- iii. Vital Statistics, Burials, entry 37.

Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of: child for births, deceased for deaths and burial permits; also separate index to births and deaths, see entry 36. Hdw. or typed on printed forms. 219 certificates, 438 pp. 8 x 8 x 1.

28. (BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, AND BURIALS), 1936--. 3 envelopes.

Contains:

- i. Births, entry 24.
- ii. Deaths, entry 35.
- iii. Marriages, entry 32.
- iv. Vital Statistics, Burials, entry 37.

No arr. For index to births and deaths, see entries 29 and 30 respectively; no index to marriages and burials. Hdw. or typed on printed forms. 21-84 certificates, 9 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 10 x 9 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .





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Town Clerk - Vital Statistics

29. INDEX TO BIRTHS, 1936--. 1 vol.

Index serving births in (Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Burials), entry 28-i, showing name of child, date of birth. No volume and page reference given as yet because records served are unbound and unnumbered. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of child, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp.  $14 \times 8\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ .

30. INDEX TO DEATHS, 1936--. 1 vol.

Index serving deaths in (Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Burials), entry 28-ii, showing name of deceased, date of death. No volume and page reference given as yet because records served are unbound and unnumbered. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of deceased, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp.  $14 \times 8\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ .

31. MARRIAGE RECORD FOR THE TOWN OF BRIDPORT, 1883-1937. 2 vols.

(3, 4). Title varies: Marriage Record, 1883-97, vol. 3, Showing information as in entry 22-iii, adding date recorded, and clerk's attest. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of groom-bride; also separate index, see entry 33. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp.  $14 \times 8 \times 1$ .

32. MARRIAGES, 1905-8, 1920-25. 2 vols. 1909-14, 1926-30 in Vital Statistics, Marriages, Births, Deaths, entry 25-iii; 1915-20, 1931-35 in Births, Marriages, Deaths, Burials, entry 26-iii; 1936-- in (Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Burials), entry 28-iii.

Original marriage certificates, showing place and date of record; names, residences, color, divorced status, birthplaces, names and birthplaces of parents and ages of both bride and groom; occupation of groom, certification of information in application by expectant bride or groom, clerk's certification of place and date of filing of copy and application; certification of performing official, showing names of groom and bride, place and date of marriage, denomination, residence and signature of performing official, date received for record, and clerk's attest; 1909--, adds oath of bride or groom as to truth of statements in application. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of groom-bride, bride-groom in vol. for 1905-8; groom-bride in vol. for 1920-25; also separate index, see entry 33. Hdw. or typed on printed forms. Aver. 33 certificates, 66 pp.  $8 \times 8 \times \frac{1}{2}$ .

For marriage records, see entry 20.

33. INDEX OF MARRIAGE RECORDS, 1791-1937. 2 vols. (1; one unnumbered).

Index serving marriages in (Marriage Records), entry 20, Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths, entry 22-iii, Vital Statistics, Marriages, Births, Deaths, entry 25-iii, Births, Marriages, Deaths, Burials, entry 26-iii, Marriage Record for the Town of Bridport, entry 31, and Marriages, entry 32, showing names of groom and bride, date of marriage, volume and page reference. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of groom-bride, bride-groom, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp.  $14 \times 9 \times 1$ .





Town Clerk - Vital Statistics

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34. RECORD OF DEATHS, 1897-1916. 1 vol. (3).

Showing information as in entry 22-ii, adding date of record, race or color of deceased, name of medical attendant. Chron. entry. For index, see entry 36. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.

35. DEATHS, 1903-8. 1 vol. 1909-14, 1926-30 in Vital Statistics, Marriages, Births, Deaths, entry 25-ii; 1915-20, 1931-35 in Births, Marriages, Deaths, Burials, entry 26-ii; 1921-25 in Births, Deaths, Burial, entry 27-ii; 1936-- in (Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Burials), entry 28-ii.

Original death certificates, showing number of certificate, place of death; county, city or town; special information for hospitals, institutions, transients or non-residents as to former or usual residence, how long at place of death, name of hospital or institution if death occurred therein; name, sex, color, marital status, date of birth, age, birthplace, name of spouse, names and birthplaces of parents, and occupation of deceased; certification of informant, date of death, certification of cause of death, duration of illness, where contracted, period of attendance, date and time last seen alive, signature of physician and/or health officer and/or name and address of informant, date filed, place and date of burial, name and address of undertaker; 1921-- adds clerk's attest; 1930-- adds occupation and business or industry in which deceased was last engaged, last date worked, total time spent in occupation, name and date of operation (if any), test which confirmed diagnosis where autopsied; if death due to external causes (violence) shows: accident, suicide or homicide, date, place, manner and nature of injury; whether disease or injury related to occupation of deceased. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of deceased; also separate index, see entry 36. Hdw. on printed forms. 76 certificates, 152 pp. 8 x 8 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

For death records, see entry 21.

36. INDEX OF BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS, 1772-1935. 2 vols.

Index serving births in (Birth Records), entry 19, Record of Births, entry 23, and Births, entry 24; serving deaths in (Death Records), entry 21, Record of Deaths, entry 34, and Deaths, entry 35; and serving births and deaths in Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths, entry 22, Vital Statistics, Marriages, Births, Deaths, entry 25, Births, Marriages, Deaths, Burials, entry 26, Births, Deaths, Burial, entry 27, showing name of child or deceased, volume and page reference of record, date of birth or death. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of child or deceased, and chron. thereunder; vol. for 1772-1865 has separate division for births and deaths. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.

37. VITAL STATISTICS, BURIALS, 1905-8, 1926-30. 2 vols. Title varies: Burial Permits, 1905-8, 1 vol. 1909-14 in Vital Statistics, Marriages, Births, Deaths, entry 25-iv; 1915-20, 1931-35 in Births, Marriages, Deaths, Burials, entry 26-iv; 1921-25 in Births, Deaths, Burial, entry 27-iii; 1936-- in (Births, Marriages, Deaths, and Burials), entry 28-iv.

Original permits for burial, entombment or removal, showing number of permit, to whom issued, place issued, date of death, name and age of





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Town Clerk - Licenses, Fees,  
Permits; Military Records;  
Miscellaneous Records

deceased, disease or cause of death, name of medical attendant; proposed place and manner of burial, entombment or removal; name and address of undertaker, authorization of health officer or town clerk; certification by undertaker of delivery of body to sexton, showing place and date of delivery, disposition made of body, name of cemetery, signature of undertaker and sexton; after 1919 authorization was made only by town clerk. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of deceased. Hdw. or typed on printed forms. 67-70 permits, 134-140 pp. 8 x 8 x 1 - 8 x 8 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

38. CEMETERY (Gravestone Inscription) RECORDS, 1921-31. 1 vol.  
1784-1870 in vol. 2 of Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths, entry 22-iv.

Record of inscription taken from cemeteries, showing name, age, marital status, date of death, disease, and date of birth of deceased; names of parents and husband or wife; name of cemetery; remarks. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of deceased. Hdw. on printed forms. 118 pp. (52 pp. used) 11 x 7 $\frac{1}{4}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Licenses, Fees, Permits

39. (DOG LICENSES), 1937--. 2 vols.

Carbon copies of licenses issued, showing license number; name of owner, size, age, sex, color, breed, and name of dog; fee, period of license, date issued, and signature of town clerk. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 59 carbon copies 12 x 7 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

40. (RECORD OF ANIMAL BOUNTY CERTIFICATES), 1899-1927. 1 vol.  
Showing date, to whom certificate was given, number and kind of animal, amount of bounty paid. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Military Records

41. ENROLLED MILITIA, 1863-66. 1 vol.

List of men enrolled in militia, showing name, age and occupation of enrolled men; remarks; first two pages list names of all men. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of enrolled person, except for list on first two pages which has no orderly arr. No index. Hdw. under printed headings. 100 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Miscellaneous Records

42. (MISCELLANEOUS UNBOUND PAPERS), 1844--. 13 drawers, 4 pigeon holes.

Original unbound miscellaneous papers files in town clerk's office:

- i. Articles of association, 1919, 1924, 1934, showing name, articles and purpose of association; shares of stock that may be issued; list of members and officers; date files and certification of secretary of state.
- ii. Creamery licenses, 1927-1929, 1934, showing name of creamery (licensee), date and duration of license, type and condition of license, date granted, signatures of selectmen.





Selectmen

(43)

- iii. Deeds, 1844-- scattered dates, showing information as in entry 8.
  - iv. Mortgages, 1844-- scattered dates, showing information as in entry 8.
  - v. Officers' appointments, 1920, 1930--, showing information as in entry 3-xx.
  - vi. Officers' oaths, 1920-23, showing information as in entry 3-xxi.
  - vii. Officers' resignations, 1913, 1922, 1935, 1936, showing address of resigning officer, date and reason of resignation, office vacated, signature of resigning officer, date received for filing, and clerk's attest.
  - viii. Officers' bonds, 1899, 1900, 1906-9, 1911-15, 1924, 1938, showing information as in entry 7.
  - ix. Requests for absent voter ballots, 1931, 1932, 1936--, showing name and address of applicant, date received.
  - x. Road mileage certificates, 1908-- scattered dates, showing information as in entry 3-xxv.
  - xi. Writs of attachments, 1855-- scattered dates: county, justice, and municipal court writs and executions, showing information as in entry 13.
- Arr. chron., within each type of record. No index. Hdw. or typed on printed forms. Drawers,  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 14 \times 11$  -  $13 \times 6\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ ; pigeon holes,  $13 \times 7 \times 4$ .

## II. SELECTMEN

Five selectmen were elected at the first annual town meeting held March 29, 1785 to serve for a term of one year.<sup>1</sup> This procedure continued through March 2, 1789, excepting 1786 when only three were elected.<sup>2</sup> During the years 1790-1910 three selectmen were elected annually for a term of one year.<sup>3</sup> At a meeting held March 7, 1911, three selectmen were elected for the following terms: one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years.<sup>4</sup> Since then one selectman has been elected annually for a term of three years.<sup>5</sup> For printed copy of financial reports for voters, see entries 4-x and 4-xii.

43. (RECORD OF ORDERS DRAWN BY SELECTMEN), 1859-81, 1911-35, 1939.  
1 vol.

Record of orders drawn, 1859-81, showing name of payee, purpose, number, date, and amount of order; also shows summary with balance brought forward, assets, liabilities, total balance, names of signers-selectmen, and date of record.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.  
2. Ibid., vol. 1, passim.  
3. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.  
4. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 269.  
5. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.





(44-47)

Listers

Also contains:

i. Chattel Mortgage Records, 1920-21, 1939, entry 16.  
ii. (Conditional Sale Contracts), 1911-35, entry 15.  
No arr. No index. Hdw. 420 pp. (104 pp. used)  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times 2$ . On top of Morse Safe.

44. (SELECTMEN'S ORDER BOOK STUBS), 1931--. 20 vols.  
Name of payee, number, date and purpose of order, balance brought forward, amount of order, balance carried forward. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 100 stubs, 100 pp.  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ . In residence of W. H. Myrick, first selectman.

45. (HIGHWAY SURVEYS), 1783-1849. 1783-86 in vol. 1 of Bridport, First Book of Records for Propriety (Proprietors' Records), entry 2-iii; 1785-1849 in vols. 1-3 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-xiii.

Record of highway surveys, showing description and date of survey, names of signers-selectmen and surveyors, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

46. (ROADS DISCONTINUED), 1834-37, 1860. 1834-37 in vol. 3 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-xxiv; 1860 in vol. 14 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 8-vii.

Records of roads discontinued, showing date discontinued, description of road, names of signers-selectmen, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

### III. LISTERS

Three listers were elected at the first annual town meeting held March 29, 1785, to serve for a term of one year.<sup>1</sup> During the years 1785-1910, from two to five listers were elected annually for a term of one year.<sup>2</sup> Three listers were elected March 7, 1911 for the following terms: one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years.<sup>3</sup> Since then one lister has been elected annually for a term of three years.<sup>4</sup>

47. (TAX INVENTORIES), 1937--. 14 bundles. Prior records destroyed.

Name and address of taxpayer, age if over 70 or under 21, name of spouse, address to which tax notice is to be sent, classification and valuation of real and personal property, offset allowed, poll tax, grand list, number and sex of dogs, attested oath of taxpayer, signatures of listers, date of receipt, summary of information, listers memorandum. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver.  $9 \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ . On top of Morse Safe.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.

2. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.

3. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 269.

4. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.





Treasurer

(48-51)

48. QUADRENNIAL APPRAISAL OF THE REAL ESTATE, 1870--. 18 vols., and 15 vols. of duplicates for 1882--. Title varies: Quinquennial Valuation for the Grand List, 1870, 1 vol.; Grand List-Quadrennial Valuation, 1874, 1878, 1882, 3 vols.; Quadrennial Valuation of the Real Estate, 1882-1910, 16 vols.

Name of owner, description of each parcel of real estate including estimated number of acres if known, appraised valuation, remarks; incorporated village, school or fire district, ward or other municipal division wherein such taxable real estate is located. Entered alph. under first letter of owner's surname. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 50-200 pp.  $16 \times 10\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{8}$  -  $11 \times 17 \times \frac{1}{2}$ .

49. ABSTRACT OF THE INDIVIDUAL LISTS AND GRAND LIST IN THE TOWN OF BRIDPORT, 1859, 1861, 1868, 1870--. 73 vols. and 1 duplicate vol. for 1874. Title varies: Grand List, 1859, 1861, 1868, 1870-1910, 44 vols.

Name and address of taxpayer, description of property, real and personal valuation, exemptions, offsets, total assessments, grand list (1% of assessed valuation), ratable polls, grand list total; division of grand list among villages, graded school districts, fire districts or other municipal divisions; memorandum. Entered alph. under first letter of taxpayer's surname. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 20-100 pp.  $18 \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$  -  $11 \times 17 \times \frac{1}{2}$ .

#### IV. TREASURER

One treasurer was elected at the annual town meeting held March 6, 1786, for a term of one year.<sup>1</sup> Since then a treasurer has been elected annually for a term of one year, except for the year 1790 when the selectmen acted as treasurers and in 1816 when no mention was made of the election of this officer.<sup>2</sup> For printed copy of reports for voters, see entry 4-xii.

50. TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS, 1826-66, 1916--. 3 vols. Title varies: Ledger, 1826-66, 1 vol.

Receipts and disbursements of general accounts, after 1916 under departmental headings: receipts, show town tax, highway tax, school tax, bank loans, dog licenses, sundries, special accounts; disbursements, show general school, highway, poor and sundry accounts. Chron. entry. No index. Vol. for 1826-66 hdw.; vols. for 1916-- hdw. under printed headings. 200-700 pp.  $13 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$  -  $14 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ .

51. (PAID ORDERS OF TOWN OFFICERS), 1934--. 36 bundles.

Original orders issued by town officers and paid by treasurer, showing name of payee; number, date, amount and purpose of order; signatures of issuing officers. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver.  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times \frac{5}{8}$ . 28 bundles, 1934-37, in attic; 8 bundles, 1938-- , in desk.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 2, see entry 3.

2. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.





(52-55)

Trustees of Public Money;  
Trustees of Public Funds

52. (CANCELED CHECKS), 1936--. 40 bundles.

Name of payee, date, number and amount of check; signature of treasurer, indorsements, bank cancellation. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver.  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times \frac{1}{2}$ . 32 bundles, 1936-38, in attic; 8 bundles, 1938--., in desk.

53. (CHECK BOOK STUBS), 1933--. 22 vols.

Name of payee, number, date, purpose and amount of check, deposits, total, balance. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 50-250 stubs, 50-250 pp.  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times \frac{1}{2} - 9 \times 13 \times 1$ . 20 vols., 1933-37, in attic; 2 vols., 1938--., in desk.

54. (TAX BOOKS), 1931--. 23 vols.

Record of taxes assessed, showing name of taxpayer; amount and division of tax for town, highway, school; total tax, discount, amount due. Tax warrant, showing rate of assessment, date to be paid, certification, date, signatures of selectmen, date received, signature of town treasurer. Entered alph. under first letter of surname of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. or typed under printed headings. Aver. 100 pp.  $7 \times 8 \times 1$ . 22 vols., 1931-37, in attic; 1 vol., 1938--., in treasurer's safe.

55. TOWN POLL (and Property) TAX RECEIPTS, 1935--. 3 bundles.

Showing name of taxpayer, amount and division of tax, discount, amount and date paid. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. on printed forms.  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5 \times 2$ . In desk drawer.

V. TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC MONEY

Three trustees of public money were elected December 31, 1836 to serve until the annual meeting in 1838.<sup>1</sup> Three trustees were elected for terms of one year from 1838-63, except in 1862 when two trustees were elected.<sup>2</sup> The number was reduced to two from 1864-73.<sup>2</sup> From 1874-1924 one trustee was elected annually for a term of one year.<sup>3</sup> Since 1924 there has been no record of the election of these officers. For printed copy of report for voters, see entry 4-xii.

VI. TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC FUNDS

One trustee of public funds, called agent of cemetery fund, was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 2, 1880.<sup>4</sup> From one to four such officers have been elected annually for a term of one year in the years 1881 to date.<sup>3</sup> These officers were called agents of cemetery fund in 1880-86 and 1888-94 and trustees of cemetery fund in 1887 and 1895 to date.<sup>3</sup> For printed copy of financial report for voters, see entries 4-iv and 4-xii.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 4, p. 18, see entry 3.

2. Ibid., vol. 4, passim.

3. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.

4. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 44.





## VII. AUDITORS

The forerunners of auditors were committees to settle and adjust the accounts of town officers; their membership varied from three to six. The first committee of three was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 6, 1786.<sup>1</sup> From 1787-1830, except in the years 1804 and 1811 when they were called auditors and in 1787-89, 1791-93, and 1795-97 when no mention was made of this election, the committees were elected annually to serve for a term of one year.<sup>2</sup> Three auditors were elected at a meeting held March 1, 1831 to serve for a term of one year.<sup>3</sup> During the years 1832-1916 three auditors were elected annually for terms of one year, except in 1834 when they were called a committee.<sup>4</sup> At a meeting held March 6, 1917 three auditors were elected for the following terms: one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years.<sup>5</sup> From 1918 to date one auditor has been elected annually for a term of three years.<sup>6</sup> In 1920, 1922 and 1923 two or three auditors were elected, presumably to fill vacancies in the office.<sup>6</sup> For printed copy of report for voters, see entry 4.

## VIII. TAX COLLECTOR

A tax collector was elected at the first annual town meeting held March 29, 1785.<sup>7</sup> One tax collector was elected annually in 1786-91, as well as in the years, 1793-99, 1801-7, 1809, 1811-29, 1836-87.<sup>8</sup> The first constable acted as tax collector during the years 1786-87, 1800, 1810, 1830-69, 1871-85, 1897-1902 and 1915.<sup>8</sup> In 1920 the treasurer acted as tax collector.<sup>9</sup> During the years, 1792, 1808, 1870, 1888-96, 1903-14, no tax collector was elected and no mention was made of the office. From 1916-19 and 1921 to date, one collector has been elected annually.<sup>6</sup>

56. (TAX ASSESSMENTS AND DELINQUENT LISTS), 1908, 1911-14, 1919-20, 1922-25, 1927, 1930-33, 1937. 1 bundle.

Statement of taxes assessed, showing classification of tax, grand list rate, amount of tax assessed; division of tax for general, school, highway, state and county taxes; totals, date of statement, clerk's attest. Delinquent list, showing name of delinquent taxpayer and year for which delinquent. Delinquent list, arr, alph. under first letter of surname of taxpayer, within each year; remainder of material arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and hdw. on printed forms. 8 x 4 x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . In desk.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 2, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  3. Ibid., vol. 3, p. 269.
  4. Ibid., vols. 3-5, passim.
  5. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 323.
  6. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.
  7. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 1.
  8. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.
  9. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 349.





Board for Abatement of Taxes;  
Board of Civil Authority;  
School Directors

#### IX. BOARD FOR ABATEMENT OF TAXES

The board for abatement of taxes, consisting of the selectmen, town clerk, listers, and justices of the peace, was created by an act of the legislature in 1860.<sup>1</sup> In 1929 the treasurer was added as a member of this board.<sup>2</sup> During the years 1839 to 1869 the duties of this office were performed by the board of civil authority.<sup>3</sup> Prior to 1839 the justices of the peace and selectmen meeting with two or more listers abated taxes.<sup>4</sup>

#### X. BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

The board of civil authority, consisting of the selectmen and justices of the peace, was constituted by an act of the legislature in 1839.<sup>3</sup> In 1892 the law was revised and the town clerk was added as a member.<sup>5</sup> Prior to 1839 the duties were performed by the selectmen and justices of the peace but no specific name was given to the office.<sup>4</sup> For check lists as revised by this board, see entry 5.

#### XI. SCHOOL DIRECTORS

At the annual meeting held March 8, 1790, four school trustees were elected for terms of one year.<sup>6</sup> One school trustee was appointed in 1797<sup>7</sup> and three in 1801 for terms of one year.<sup>8</sup> In 1829 seven school commissioners were elected for a term of one year.<sup>9</sup> This procedure was followed in 1830-33 and 1836, with the number elected annually varying from three to seven.<sup>10</sup> From 1846-90 one school director was elected annually, except in 1857 when no mention was made of the election of this officer.<sup>11</sup> In 1891-92, one school superintendent was elected for a term of one year.<sup>12</sup> In 1893 three school directors were elected for a term of one year.<sup>13</sup> In 1894 three school directors were elected for the following terms: one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years.<sup>14</sup> From 1895 to date one school director has been elected annually for a term of three years.<sup>15</sup> No mention was made

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1. Laws of Vermont, 1860, No. 23.
  2. Ibid., 1979, No. 54.
  3. Vermont Revised Statutes, 1839, ch. 13, sec. 49.
  4. Statutes of the State of Vermont, 1787, pp. 151, 152.
  5. Laws of Vermont, 892, No. 52, sec. 1.
  6. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 108, see entry 3.
  7. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 52.
  8. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 76.
  9. Ibid., vol. 3, p. 116.
  10. Ibid., vols. 3, 4, passim.
  11. Ibid., vols. 4, 5, passim.
  12. Ibid., vol. 5, pp. 127, 133.
  13. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 141.
  14. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 146.
  15. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.





## School Directors

of this office in 1791-96, 1798-1800, 1802-28, 1834-35, 1837-45, and 1857. For printed copy of financial reports for voters, see entries 4 x and 4-xii.

57. VERMONT SCHOOL REGISTERS, 1895, 1900, 1923-. 101 vols. Questionnaire of teacher, certification of report by teacher, list of pupils, visitors' register, daily attendance giving name and age of pupil, grade, number of days of attendance and absence, times tardy, times dismissed, list of transfers and non-resident pupils. Attendance records arr. alph. under surname of pupils; no arr. to remainder of vol. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 50 pp.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times \frac{1}{4}$ .

58. SCHOOL DIRECTORS' REPORTS, 1911-14. 4 vols.  
Contains:

- i. List of school officers, showing name of officer and office held.
- ii. Report of school directors', showing report of the attendance and costs, number of weeks of school, policy toward teachers and pupils, statement of perfect attendance with names of scholars, list of those attending Middlebury High School; school census; classified list of orders drawn with date, name of payee and amount, teachers' wages and board, superintendent's services, school directors' services, text books, supplies and appliances, furniture, fuel, janitor services, transportation, tuition; summaries with itemized expenditures and receipts, balance, names of signers-school directors, certification of auditors.
- iii. Report of superintendent of schools, showing date, detailed report of the years works, number of visits to school, statement of progress and needs, recommendations for improvements, name of signer-superintendent. For report, 1932, see entry 4-xiii.
- iv. School calendar, showing dates of opening and closing of fall and spring terms, list of legal holidays within school term with the names and dates of the holidays.

No arr. No index. Printed. Aver. 10 pp.  $8 \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 1/8$ .

59. STATISTICAL REPORT OF SCHOOLS, 1919, 1921, 1924, 1928-31, 1934, 1936. 9 vols.

Copy of report by superintendent of schools and school directors to the state board of education, showing attendance by schools, number and names of schools, grades taught, number of days taught, total actual attendance, average daily attendance, average number enrolled, resident and non-resident enrollment; elementary school and high school tuition pupils attending school in town from other districts and/or attending school out of town from this district, showing name of pupil, number of weeks membership, place where school is, or town of origin, by whom tuition is paid, amount paid, amount due; schools in use during school year, showing rating and term; receipts and expenditures; signatures of school directors and superintendent of schools. No arr. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 15 pp.  $11 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 1/8$ .





(60-62)

Road Commissioners;  
Overseer of Poor

60. SCHOOL DIRECTOR'S ACCOUNT, 1910--. 1 vol.

Record of orders drawn against school account, showing date and number of order, name of payee, total amount for: teachers' salaries, school directors' services and expenses, repairs, furniture, water, fuel and lights, janitor's service, transportation and board, tuitions to other towns, supplies and fire insurance. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. under printed headings. 250 pp.  $16\frac{1}{2}$  x 11 x 2. At residence of Mrs. Katherine Nisun, chairman of school directors.

61. (SCHOOL DIRECTORS' ORDER BOOK STUBS), 1935--. 8 vols.

Name of payee, number, date, purpose of order, balance brought forward, amount of order, balance carried forward. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 34 stubs, 34 pp.  $3\frac{1}{4}$  x 11 x  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Residence of Mrs. Katherine Nisun, chairman of school directors.

XII. ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Three pathmasters were elected at the annual town meeting March 29, 1785, to serve for a term of one year.<sup>1</sup> In 1786, 1788 five pathmasters were elected annually for a term of one year.<sup>2</sup> From 1787, 1789-1884 and in 1891, five to twenty-nine highway surveyors were elected for terms of one year.<sup>3</sup> The selectmen acted as road commissioners during the years 1886, 1889-90.<sup>4</sup> In 1887 six street commissioners were elected for a term of one year.<sup>5</sup> In 1892 the town voted that the selectmen appoint a commissioner.<sup>6</sup> From 1893-1908 and in 1910 one or two road commissioners were elected annually.<sup>4</sup> During the years 1911, 1913-20 one road commissioner was elected for a term of one year.<sup>4</sup> From 1921 to date two road commissioners have been elected annually for terms of one year.<sup>4</sup> No mention is made of this office in 1885, 1909 and 1912. For printed copy of financial report for voters, see entries 4-x and 4-xii.

62. (ROAD COMMISSIONER'S ORDER BOOK STUBS), 1936--. 6 vols.

Name of payee, number, place, date, purpose of order, balance brought forward, amount of order, balance carried forward. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 100 stubs, 100 pp.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  x  $4\frac{1}{2}$  x  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Residence of George Payne, road commissioner.

XIII. OVERSEER OF POOR

One overseer of poor was elected for a term of one year at the annual town meeting held March 2, 1829.<sup>7</sup> This procedure has been

- 
1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vol. 1, passim.
  3. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.
  4. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.
  5. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 101.
  6. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 133.
  7. Ibid., vol. 3, p. 116.





Moderator; Library Trustees;  
Constable; Town Agent

(63)

followed to date excepting the years 1889, 1892, 1896-98, 1903, 1905-6, 1913-15, 1917-20 and 1938 to date, when the selectmen acted in the capacity of overseers.<sup>1</sup> For printed copy of financial reports for voters, see entry 4-x.

63. (OVERSEER OF POOR'S ORDER BOOK STUBS), 1935—. 3 vols. Name of payee, number, date, purpose of order, balance brought forward, amount of order, balance carried forward. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 100 stubs, 100 pp.  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ . Residence of W. H. Myrick, first selectman.

#### XIV. MODERATOR

The first moderator was elected at the first annual meeting held March 29, 1785.<sup>2</sup> Since that time one moderator has been elected annually.<sup>3</sup> This office keeps no records.

#### XV. LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Five library trustees were elected March 2, 1909, for a term of one year.<sup>4</sup> In 1910, five trustees were elected to serve for the following terms: one for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years.<sup>5</sup> Since then one trustee has been elected annually for a term of five years.<sup>6</sup> For printed copy of financial report for voters, see entry 4-xii.

#### XVI. CONSTABLE

One constable was elected March 6, 1786, for a term of one year.<sup>7</sup> Since that time one or two constables have been elected annually for a term of one year.<sup>3</sup> The first constable also acted as tax collector during the years, 1786-87, 1800, 1810, 1830-69, 1871-85, 1897-1902 and 1915.<sup>3</sup> This office keeps no records.

#### XVII. TOWN AGENT

The first town agent was elected at an annual meeting held March 1, 1841, to serve for a term of one year.<sup>8</sup> Since then one agent has been elected annually to serve for a term of one year.<sup>9</sup> This office keeps no records.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vols. 3-5, passim, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 1.
  3. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.
  4. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 254.
  5. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 259.
  6. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.
  7. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 2.
  8. Ibid., vol. 4, p. 105.
  9. Ibid., vols. 4, 5, passim.





(64)

Grand Jurors; Board of Health;  
Fence Viewers; Poundkeepers

### XVIII. GRAND JURORS

A grand juror was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 29, 1785.<sup>1</sup> Since that date from one to five grand jurors have been elected annually for terms of one year except in 1935 and 1938 to date when none were shown.<sup>2</sup> This office kept no records.

### XIX. BOARD OF HEALTH

An act of the legislature in 1892 required the commissioner of the state board of health to appoint a health officer in each town.<sup>3</sup> At present the state board of health upon recommendation of the selectmen of the town appoints a health officer to serve for a three year term and until his successor is appointed.<sup>4</sup> The selectmen of the town and the health officer constitute the local board of health and the health officer is the secretary and executive officer of this board.<sup>5</sup> For printed copy of health officer's report for voters, see entry 4-vi.

### XX. FENCE VIEWERS

Three fence viewers were elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 6, 1786.<sup>6</sup> During the years 1798-1910 a number varying from two to four were elected annually except in the years 1898-1906 when the selectmen acted in that capacity.<sup>2</sup> From 1911 to date two or three fence viewers have been appointed annually by the selectmen for a term of one year.<sup>7</sup>

64. FENCE RECORDS, 1898-1934. 1 vol. 1815 in vol. 3 of Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), entry 3-x; 1817, 1896-97 in vols. 6, 17 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 8-iii.

Record of fence viewers' decisions, showing location and date of decision, names of disputants, line to be kept by each, names of signers-fence viewers, date recorded, and clerk's attest. Chron. entry. Indexed alph. under first letter of surname of disputant. Hdw. 196 pp.  $13\frac{3}{4}$  x  $8\frac{1}{2}$  x 1.

### XXI. POUNDKEEPERS

One poundkeeper was elected for a term of one year at a meeting

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.
  3. Laws of Vermont, 1892, No. 92.
  4. Public Laws of Vermont, 1933, ch. 219, secs. 5275, 5279.
  5. Ibid., 1933, ch. 219, secs. 5278, 5279.
  6. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 2, see entry 3.
  7. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.





Sealer of Weights and  
Measures; Inspector of  
Leather; Inspector of  
Lumber, Shingles and Wood

held March 29, 1785.<sup>1</sup> During the years 1786-1910 one to three poundkeepers were elected annually for a one-year term, except in 1797, 1810, 1845, and 1847 when no records of the election of this officer were shown.<sup>2</sup> From 1911 to date one or two poundkeepers have been appointed annually by the selectmen for a term of one year, except in 1929 when no appointment was recorded.<sup>3</sup> This office keeps no records.

#### XXII. SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The first sealer of weights and measures was elected for a term of one year on the first Monday in March, 1788.<sup>4</sup> During the years 1788-1920 one sealer was elected annually for a term of one year, except during the years 1789, 1794, 1812, 1865-1921.<sup>2</sup> From 1922 to date one sealer has been appointed annually by the selectmen.<sup>5</sup> This office keeps no records.

#### XXIII. INSPECTOR OF LEATHER

One sealer of leather was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 6, 1786.<sup>6</sup> One or two sealers were elected in 1787-89, 1792-1865, 1867-1907 and in 1910 to serve for a term of one year.<sup>2</sup> The name was changed from sealer of leather to inspector of leather in 1845.<sup>7</sup> From 1911 to date one inspector of leather has been appointed annually by the selectmen to serve for a term of one year, except in 1912-17, 1922-27, 1929, and 1931 when no mention was made of the appointment.<sup>3</sup> This office keeps no records.

#### XXIV. INSPECTOR OF LUMBER, SHINGLES AND WOOD

One inspector of lumber, shingles and wood was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 2, 1835.<sup>8</sup> One such officer was elected for a term of one year in the years 1839-40 and 1870-1910.<sup>9</sup> During the years 1911 to date one inspector has been appointed annually by the selectmen for a term of one year.<sup>3</sup> This officer acted as weigher of coal in 1915.<sup>5</sup> This office keeps no records.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 1, p. 1, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1-5, passim.
  3. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.
  4. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 6.
  5. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 306.
  6. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 2.
  7. Ibid., vol. 4, p. 153.
  8. Ibid., vol. 4, p. 1.
  9. Ibid., vols. 4, 5, passim.





Weigher of Coal; Sextons;  
Tythingmen; Haywards

#### XXV. WEIGHER OF COAL

The first weigher of coal was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 7, 1911.<sup>1</sup> One was elected in 1912<sup>2</sup>, and one appointed in 1923<sup>3</sup>, otherwise no other records of the election of this officer are available. This office kept no records.

#### XXVI. SEXTONS

At an annual town meeting held March 28, 1797, one sexton was elected for a term of one year.<sup>4</sup> During the years 1799-1842, from one to five sextons were elected annually for terms of one year, excepting the years 1801, 1804 and 1806-8, when no mention was made of this office.<sup>5</sup> From 1843 to date two or three sextons have been elected annually, except in 1937 when no mention was made of the officer and in 1939 when two such officers were appointed by the selectmen.<sup>6</sup> This office keeps no records.

#### XXVII. TYTHINGMEN

One tythingman was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 6, 1786.<sup>7</sup> One to six tythingmen were elected for one year terms in the years 1793-1807, 1809-37 and 1840.<sup>5</sup> In 1838 it was voted that the deacons and class teachers be tythingmen for the different societies of said town, and in 1839 the deacons acted as tythingmen.<sup>8</sup> This office was discontinued in 1840. This office kept no records.

#### XXVIII. HAYWARDS

Two haywards were elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 4, 1793.<sup>9</sup> From 1793-1823 from two to twenty-nine were elected annually, excepting the years 1816 when sixty-eight were elected, and 1818 which named thirty-seven, and in 1797 and 1819 when no mention was made of this election.<sup>10</sup> The highway surveyors acted as haywards from 1824-40, and 1842 when this office was discontinued.<sup>11</sup>

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 5, p. 269, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 277.
  3. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 385.
  4. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 52.
  5. Ibid., vols. 2-4, passim.
  6. Ibid., vols. 4, 5, passim.
  7. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 2.
  8. Ibid., vol. 4, pp. 26, 35.
  9. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 32.
  10. Ibid., vols. 2, 3, passim.
  11. Ibid., vols. 3, 4, passim.





Fire Warden; Tree Warden;  
Inspector of Hoop-Poles,  
Headings and Staves;  
Inspector of Flour

#### XXIX. FIRE WARDEN

One fire warden was elected at a meeting held March 2, 1915.<sup>1</sup> From 1921-32 and 1934 one fire warden was appointed annually by the selectmen.<sup>2</sup> This office kept no records.

#### XXX. TREE WARDEN

One tree warden was elected at a meeting held March 3, 1908 to serve for a term of one year.<sup>3</sup> This procedure was followed in 1912.<sup>4</sup> Since then no mention has been made of the office. This office kept no records.

#### XXXI. INSPECTOR OF HOOP-POLES, HEADINGS AND STAVES

One inspector of hoop-poles, headings and staves was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 3, 1834.<sup>5</sup> From 1834-40 one or two such inspectors were elected annually for a term of one year, except the year 1838 when no mention was made of the election of this officer.<sup>6</sup> No records of elections are available after 1840. This office kept no records.

#### XXXII. INSPECTOR OF FLOUR

One inspector of flour was elected at a meeting held March 2, 1836 for a term of one year.<sup>7</sup> One such officer was elected for a similar term in 1837-39.<sup>8</sup> These are the only records found for the election of this officer. This office kept no records.

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1. Town Book (Town Meeting and Miscellaneous Records), vol. 5, p. 306, see entry 3.
  2. Ibid., vol. 5, passim.
  3. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 244.
  4. Ibid., vol. 5, p. 277.
  5. Ibid., vol. 3, p. 298.
  6. Ibid., vols. 3, 4, passim.
  7. Ibid., vol. 4, p. 10.
  8. Ibid., vol. 4, pp. 11, 26, 35.





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P U B L I C A T I O N S

VERMONT HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

INVENTORY OF THE TOWN, VILLAGE AND CITY  
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Churches of Hinesburg - A Preliminary Publication

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